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ABSTRACT

A statistical description of the current social and economic status of black Americans is presented in this report. The focus is on the changes which have occurred in the 1970's in population distribution, income, education, employment, family composition, health, voting, and other major aspects of life. Comparisons are made with the mid- and late 1960's. The time period used varies in the report; however, the most current data available are always presented. Generally, to date, the 1970's characterized by a mixed pattern of development as compared with the 1960's, the decade when major social and economic advances were made by blacks. Blacks have shown continued progress in education and the acquisition of elected offices. In other areas such as income, the picture is particularly mixed with significant regional and family status variation, although the overall income ratio between black and white families has declined. Most of the estimates in this report are based on data from the Current Population Survey of the Bureau of the Census. Other data were provided by various governmental agencies including the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor; the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare; National Center for Health Statistics; and the Civil Service Commission. (Author/JM)

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PREFACE

This report was planned and prepared by Nampeo D.R. McKenney, Special Assistant on Racial Statistics, Population Division, with the assistance of Olga V. Fonville, Patricia A. Johnson, Virginia H. Williams, and Gloria J. Porter. General direction was provided by Meyer Zitter, Chief, and Charles Johnson, Assistant Chief of Population Division. The chapter on Employment was developed in the Division of Economic Studies of the Bureau of Labor Statistics by Harvey R. Hamel, assisted by Claudia O. Ellis, under the general direction of Robert L. Stein, Chief.

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NOTE

In the tables of this report, the terms "Black" or "Negro" are used interchangeably. In the textual discussion, however, the term "Black" is used exclusively.

The term "Negro and other races" describes persons of all races other than white and is used (in both text and table) whenever data for blacks alone are not available over the period of time shown. Generally, statistics for the national population of Negro and other races reflect the condition of the black population, since about 90 percent of the population of Negro and other races is black.

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The Social and Economic Status of the Black Population, 1973

INTRODUCTION

A statistical description of the current social and economic status of black Americans is presented in this report, which is the seventh in a series on the subject. The particular focus of this report is on the changes which have occurred in the 1970's in population distribution, income, education, employment, family composition, health, voting, and other major aspects of life. Comparisons are made with the mid- and late 1960's. Comparable data on blacks are not always available so the time period used varies in the report; however, the most current data available are always presented.

Generally, to date, the 1970's have been characterized by a mixed pattern of development as compared with the 1960's, the decade when major social and economic advances were made by blacks. Blacks have shown continued progress in education and the acquisition of elected officies. In other areas, such as income, the picture is particularly mixed with significant regional and family status variation, although the overall income ratio between black and white families has declined.

Population

The black resident population was approximately 23.7 million in April 1973 and had increased by an estimated 1.1 million persons since 1970. Net immigration from abroad, which played an insignificant role in the growth of the black population during most of the twentieth century, has contributed considerably to its growth in recent years. However, natural increase, despite declining birth rates among blacks, was still the major factor accounting for the increase in the black population.

Blacks have continued to be concentrated in the central cities of metropolitan areas. By 1973, 6 out of 10 black persons were residents of a central city.

Income

The median income in 1973 was $7,270 for black amilies and $12,600 for white families. The upgrading of the income levels of black families which was associated with the narrowing income gap which occurred in the 1960's was not as evident within the last four years. From 1969 to 1973, the median income of black families (in constant 1973 dollars) did not grow, after an appreciable increase during the preceding four-year period. On the other hand, white families showed gains in the median levels for both periods.

In the time period from 1965 to 1969, the proportion of blacks at the lower end of the income distribution (under $3,000) was markedly reduced while the proportion at the upper end ($10,000 and over and $15,000 and over) rose sharply. However, from 1969 to 1973, only modest gains (in constant dollars) were observed in the proportions at the upper end, with no significant change at the lower end.

The overall income position of black families relative to white families, as measured by the income ratio, has declined within recent years. The ratio of median family income of blacks to whites has moved downward from 0.61 in 1969 to 0.58 in 1973, after a rise during the period 1964 to 1969-70. Another measure of income comparability, the index of income overlap, also showed that there was no further narrowing of the income differences between black and white families in the 1970's.

Although the overall ratio declined between 1969 and 1973, the income ratio remained unchanged for male headed families (regardless of labor force status of wife) and the apparent increase in the ratio for female headed families was not statistically significant. Thus, the changes in the overall ratio reflect, in part, the changes in the mix of the population, such as changes in the proportion of husband-wife families with wives in the paid labor force, the proportion of families headed by women, the number of earners in a family, occupational distribution, and work experience patterns. For example, the proportion of black husband-wife families with a working wife dropped between 1969 and 1973. Also, the percentage of black families headed by females, who generally have lower income, increased. Additionally, the proportion of black families with two or more earners dropped and consequently, in 1974, the trend observed in the 1960's was reversed; black families now have proportionately fewer multiple earners than white families.

Although the income differential between all black and white families has widened, at least one segment of the black community–the young husband-wife families in the South, where both spouses were earners–has made substantial gains in narrowing the income gap. In prior years, much attention was focused on the comparable families in the North and West who had reached income equality with their white counterparts in the 1960's. Now it appears that the young black husband-wife families in the South have followed the pattern of their counterparts in the North and West. Among the young black husband-wife families in the South where

both spouses were earners, the ratio of black to white income increased from 0.72 in 1969 to 0.84 in 1972, but still lagged behind the parity found in the North and West. The working wife (and the number who worked year-round) in the South was an important factor in explaning the narrowing of this income differential. Where the husband was the only earner, the ratio of 0.70 in 1972 was not significantly different from 1969 level.

The earnings of young black and white wives in the South were about the same ($3,400 in 1972), however a higher proportion of black than white wives with earnings participated in the labor force as year-round workers in 1972 (50 and 42 percents, respectively). The 1972 proportion (50 percent) for black wives was a sharp increase over the 1969 proportion. The young black wives in the South made a larger contribution to the family income than did their white counterparts.

Approximately 7.4 million blacks and 15.1 million whites were below the low-income level in 1973. There was some evidence that the number of low-income blacks declined within the last year (1972 to 1973). However, since 1969, the number of low-income blacks has fluctuated within a narrow range; during the 1960's, a downward trend had prevailed.

The 1.5 million black families below the low-income level in 1973 represented about 28 percent of all black families. The 1973 number remained unchanged from the 1972 level; the comparable group of white families declined. Within this last year, also, the number of low-income black families with a female head held constant.

Over the last four years, the number of low-income black families increased, however, their proportion of all black families was about the same in 1973 as in 1969.

Labor Force and Employment

The employment situation for blacks in the 1970's has tended to change in line with the overall trends of the economy.

The total labor force of Negro and other races totaled about 10 million in 1973, a moderate increase over the 1972 level. Since 1970, the number of Negro and other races and whites in the labor force have grown at about the same rate, continuing the growth experienced during the 1960 decade.

Trends in labor force praticipation rates have changed over the past 10-year period. Among Negro and other races, the participation rate for men has declined in nearly every age group; among the women, sharp increases have occurred for those 20 to 34 years old. Increases for white women in all age groups, except the oldest, have been striking.

The 1973 unemployment rates for Negro and other races and whites were 8.9 and 4.3 percent, respectively. After declining for several years in the 1960's, the jobless rates for Negro and other races began to rise in 1970. Consistent with the recent economic recovery which started in 1972 and continued throughout most of 1973, jobless rates for Negro and other races and whites declined at about the same rate between 1972 and 1973. However, the 1973 rate for Negro and other races had not receded to its 1970 level, as it had for whites.

Overall in 1973, Negro and other races were twice as likely to be unemployed as whites--the unemployment rate ratio was 2.1:1. Within the last 10 years, the ratio has narrowed only during 1970 and 1971 when it was 1.8:1.

Jobless rates for blacks differ substantially by occupation and by industry group. Unemployment rates were significantly higher among blacks than among whites in most occupation and industry groups. In 1973, among blacks working in white-collar jobs, sales workers had the highest unemployment rates; among blue-collar workers, nonfarm laborers and operatives (other than transport equipment operatives) had the highest rates. Unemployment rates for blacks were generally higher in such industries as construction, wholesale and retail trade; and lower in such industries as finance, insurance and real estate, and transportation and public utilities.

By 1973, about 9.1 million persons of Negro and other races were employed, an increase over the 1972 level. From the beginning of the decade, total employment has increased at approximately the same rate for both Negro and other races and whites.

The movement of Negro and other races into the higher-paying jobs had slowed down somewhat in the 1970's compared to the 1960's. The proportion of Negro and other races in white-collar jobs was 31 percent in 1973, only a slight increase over the 1970 level (28 percent). In 1967, 23 percent had held such jobs.

The annual earnings of black men working at year-round full-time jobs averaged $7,300 in 1972, only 69 percent of those of white men--$10,590.

In contrast to earnings patterns for black and white men, the earnings levels of black women working at year-round full-time jobs were closer to those of white women. Overall, black women averaged $5,150 in 1972, 86 percent of the average earnings of white women.

Education

Education is one of the areas in which blacks have continued to show progress.

About 700,000 blacks were enrolled in college in 1973, up from the 1970 level. Black men have made substantial gains in college attendance. By 1973, a higher proportion of black men 18 to 24 years old than women were enrolled in college (19 versus 14 percent). In 1965, the rate was the same for both men and women (10 percent).

The emphasis on achieving higher educational levels is reflected in the increases in the proportions of young blacks who are high school or college graduates. From 1970 to 1973, the proportion of black men (20 to 24 years) who were high school graduates increased sharply to 70 percent, continuing the rise observed during the period 1965 to 1970. Young black women also have made educational gains over the last 8-year period. By 1973, about 8 percent of black adults 25 to 34 years old had completed a college education. Despite these continuing gains, the proportion of black adults completing high school or college was still well below that of whites.

Family and Fertility

For several years, there has been an annual decline in the proportion of black husband-wife families and a concomitant increase in the proportion of black families with a female head. However, between 1973 and 1974, the proportion of black female heads showed no statistically significant change. In 1974, about 34 percent of black families were headed by a women–a rise from the 24 percent in 1965–the proportion of husband-wife families declined from 73 to 62 percent over the same period.

In 1973, black female heads of families were more likely than their white counterparts to have children to support, and of those with children, a larger proportion of blacks than whites had 2 or more children.

The increase over the years in female headed families, especially those with children, may have had some effect upon other social and economic characteristics in the black community. For example, the percentage of black children living with both parents has dropped. In the 1970's, the proportion dropped sharply from 64 to 56 percent.

Black and white women have moved from the high fertility levels experienced in the past to lower fertility levels in the 1960's and 1970's. Between 1960 and 1970 (latest data available by race), total fertility rates have declined at about the same rate for both Negro and other races and white women. However, the total fertility rate in 1970 of 3.10 children per black woman was still substantially higher than that of 2.34 for white women.

The trend toward lower fertility levels for black women was most noticeable among the younger cohorts of women. For example, the black women 25 to 29 years old had borne 1.7 children by 1973; black women of comparable ages in 1965 had given birth to 2.6 children by that date, a drop of 34 percent. Moreover, the birth expectations of young black wives (18 to 24 years old) now closely resemble those of white wives (2.3 children per woman).

Illegitimacy appears to have risen among black women. For women first married in 1965 to 1969, about 32 percent reported that they had a child before marriage, compared to 19 percent for women first married in the 1940 decade.

Women

Black women have made some important advances in several areas since the mid- and late 1960's; yet, much remains to be achieved, for in most instances, black women still lag behind white women. Gains have been made in entering the white-collar occupations, in acquiring public offices, and in achieving incomes more comparable to those of white women. As noted in other sections of the text, the health status of black women has improved since the mid-1960's and the proportion who are high school or college graduates, and attending college has increased. However, black women continue to have high unemployment rates and still are heavily overrepresented in the low-paying jobs. Moreover, greater numbers of black women have assumed the role of family heads with children to support, and their proportions are increasing among the poor.

Marked increases have been noted in the number of black women elected to public office. Since 1969, the number of black women holding public office has more than doubled–from 131 to 337. Approximately 13 percent of all elected black officials were women in 1973, representing a small increase over the level 4 years earlier.

For the first time, black women–three in fact–were elected as Mayors; three Congresswomen joined the one Congresswoman elected in 1968, and seven women won State legislature seats.

Black women represented 22 percent of all women working full-time as Federal employees in November 1973. The proportion of jobs held by black women varied widely by the specific type of pay system. Black women were generally underrepresented among women in the higher level jobs in each pay system.

Health

The health status of black females has improved; black males have not experienced similar improvements. Between the period 1959-61 and 1971, 2.8 years were added to the life expectancy at birth of females of Negro and other races; virtually no change occurred among males of Negro and other races. During this period, differences in life expectancy between whites and blacks were moderately reduced among the females, but widened somewhat among the males.

Reductions occurred in age-specific death rates among the females (between 15 and 64 years) due, in part, to the decline in death rates (1965 to 1971) from major cardivascular diseases--the leading cause of death. Additionally, maternal mortality has reached very low levels for women of Negro and other races--The rate was below 1.0 per 1,000 live births in 1971.

Suicide, a low-ranking cause of death, among females of Negro and other races increased from 1965 to 1971 (3.0 to 3.9 per 100,000 population).

Among males of Negro and other races, major cardiovascular diseases, the primary cause of death, declined over the period 1965 to 1971. Deaths from malignant neoplasms together with accidents and homicide--causes which were particularly high for males of Negro and other races in 1971--rose over the six-year period, undoubtedly contributing to the rise in age-specific death rates observed for most age groups in this male population.

Elected Officials

In the 1970's sharp gains have been noted in the number of blacks elected to public office. This is a continuation of the trend which began in the 1960's subsequent to the Voting Rights Act, and vigorous voter registration and education projects. There were 2,991 blacks holding public elected offices in 45 States and the District of Columbia as of the end of March 1974 (5 States did not have black elected officials). This represents an increase of 1,131, or 61 percent, since 1970. In 1974, the States having the largest number of blacks holding office were Michigan, Mississippi, and New York, respectively.

A marked increase also has been noted in the number of black mayors--81 in 1970 and 108 in 1974. Although most of the black mayors govern small towns and communities, several are now holding office in some of the nation's largest cities--Atlanta, Cincinnati, Dayton, Detroit, Gary, Los Angeles, Newark, and Raleigh.

Generally, black mayors were the chief administrators in towns and places which are predominately black--in 61 of the 91 places for which racial data were available, blacks were at least 50 percent or more of the population.

OTHER FEATURES AND NEW ITEMS

1. **Food Stamps.** Negro and other races families comprised about 42 percent of the 2.8 million families who reported they purchased food stamps in May 1973, according to a sample survey conducted in June 1973. In contrast to all families, families who received food stamps, regardless of the race of the head, were more likely to have a female head, to have lower incomes and a greater proportion of large families (5 or more members), and to receive public assistance income.

2. **Low-Income Areas.** Within metropolitan areas, regardless of poverty status, a substantial proportion of black families lived in low-income areas. About 46 percent of metropolitan black families above the low-income level lived in poverty areas compared with 66 percent for those below the low-income level.

3. **Purchase of Major Durables.** During the 5-year period, 1968 to 1972, black American households spent an average of $2,654 on major durable goods--about 59 percent of the average expenditure reported by white households. The highest average expenditure by both blacks and whites was on new and used cars, the costliest consumer durable covered in this Survey of Consumer Buying Expectations. In general, for most items in the survey, households headed by blacks reported a lower percentage making purchases than households headed by whites.

4. **Black and White Children.** Most black children live with black parents and most white children live with white parents. Of the 6.3 million black children living with both parents, 68,000 were in families where only one parent was black. In about two-thirds of these cases, the mother was white and the father black. A relatively small number (16,000) of black children were living in homes where neither parent was black. These children were probably adopted or foster children or the offspring of a previous marriage where the other spouse was black.

5. **Single Women.** Greater numbers of the young black women (under 35 years old) are remaining single. The percent of black women under 35 years who were single increased from 41 percent in 1960 to 54 percent in 1973. A similar situation occurred among white women. For both races this is a shift away from the trend observed during earlier periods (1940 to 1960).

6. **Nonregistration Rates.** A sizeable number, 3.9 million, of blacks of voting age were not registered in 1972. The largest component, 45 percent, cited "not interested" as the reason for not registering. The nonregistration rate for blacks was greater in the South than in the North and West.

7. **Teenage Unemployment.** Negro and other races-to-white unemployment rate differentials are most pronounced among teenagers. In 1973, the jobless rate for Negro and other races teens averaged 30 percer nearly 2½ times the rate for white teens.

8. **Extent and Duration of Unemployment.** In 1972, Negro and other races men and women were more likely than whites to have been unemployed at some time during the year, to have accumulated more weeks of joblessness, and to have experienced multiple spells of unemployment.

More detailed information on these and other measurable aspects of the living conditions of blacks in the United States is presented in the tables of this report.

1 POPULATION: GROWTH, COMPOSITION, AND DISTRIBUTION

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POPULATION: GROWTH, COMPOSITION, AND DISTRIBUTION

In April 1973, the black resident population in this country was approximately 23.7 million and comprised 11.3 percent of the total resident population (table 1). Blacks had increased by an estimated 1.1 million persons and at an average annual rate of 1.6 percent since 1970. During the last five years of the 1960's, the annual rate of change had averaged 1.5 percent. The small increase in the rate of growth of the resident population during the 1970's was due, not to an increase in the birth rate, which had declined, but rather to the large numbers of Armed Forces personnel returning to the United States from abroad, especially from Vietnam, and to a rise in net civilian immigration from abroad.

The black population living in central cities of metropolitan areas continued to grow in the early 1970's. In 1973, 6 out of 10 black persons were residents of a central city. The number of whites in central cities in 1973 has shown a decline from the 1970 level, thus the exodus of whites from the central cities observed in the 1960 decade appeared to be continuing in the 1970's (table 4).

The regional distribution of the black population has remained about the same since 1965. Slightly more than one-half, 52 percent, of all blacks still reside in the South; about 40 percent reside in the North (table 2).

The age distribution of the black population differs substantially from that of the white population. The black population is younger with a higher proportion under 15 years old and a lower proportion 65 years old and over. In 1973, approximately 33 percent of the blacks were under 15 years old; the figure was 26 percent for whites. At the other end of the age structure, 7 percent of the blacks and 11 percent of the whites were 65 years old and over.

In 1973, the median ages of 21.7 years for black males and 24.0 for black females were about 6 years younger than the averages of 28.0 years for white males and 30.6 for white females (table 5).

Table 1. Total Resident Population: 1900, 1940, 1950, 1960, and 1965 to 1973

(Numbers in millions)

Year	Total	Black	Percent black
1900[1]	76.0	8.8	12
1940[1]	131.7	12.9	10
1950[1]	150.7	15.0	10
1960	179.3	18.9	11
1965	193.0	20.9	11
1966	195.0	21.3	11
1967	197.0	21.6	11
1968	198.9	21.9	11
1969	200.9	22.2	11
1970	203.2	22.6	11
1971	205.7	23.0	11
1972	207.8	23.4	11
1973	209.5	23.7	11

Note: Data are for resident population as of April 1 for each year. Data for 1965-1969, and 1971-1973 are estimates.

[1]Data exclude Alaska and Hawaii.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 2. Distribution of the Population by Region: 1965, 1970, and 1973

Subject	1965	1970	1973
BLACK			
United States.....millions..	20.9	22.6	23.2
Percent, total.....	100	100	100
South.....	54	53	52
North.....	38	39	40
Northeast.....	18	19	19
North Central.....	20	20	21
West.....	8	8	8
WHITE			
United States.....millions..	169.2	177.7	180.3
Percent, total.....	100	100	100
South.....	27	28	29
North.....	55	54	53
Northeast.....	26	25	25
North Central.....	29	29	29
West.....	17	18	18

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 3. Blacks as a Percent of the Total Population in the United States and Each Region: 1965, 1970, and 1973

Area	1965	1970	1973
United States	11	11	11
South	19	19	19
North	8	8	8
Northeast	8	9	9
North Central	8	8	9
West	5	5	5

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 4. Population Distribution and Change, Inside and Outside Metropolitan Areas: 1960, 1970, and 1973

(Numbers in thousands)

Area	Black			White		
	1960	1970	1973[1]	1960	1970	1973[1]
United States	18,872	22,580	23,189	158,832	177,749	179,574
Metropolitan areas	12,741	16,771	17,619	105,829	120,579	120,631
Inside central cities	9,874	13,140	13,868	49,415	49,430	47,206
Outside central cities	2,866	3,630	3,751	56,414	71,148	73,425
Nonmetropolitan areas	6,131	5,810	5,570	53,003	57,170	58,943
Percent Distribution						
United States	100	100	100	100	100	100
Metropolitan areas	68	74	76	67	68	67
Inside central cities	52	58	60	31	28	26
Outside central cities	15	16	16	36	40	41
Nonmetropolitan areas	32	26	24	33	32	33

[1]Five quarter average centered on April 1973. Quarterly estimates for the months of October 1972, and January, April, July, and October 1973 were used. These figures do not include annexations since 1970. See "Definitions and Explanations" section for more details.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 5. Population by Age and Sex: 1973

(Numbers in thousands)

Age and sex	Black	White	Percent distribution	
			Black	White
Male, all ages	11,337	89,424	100	100
Under 5 years	1,231	7,153	11	8
5 to 9 years	1,302	7,774	11	9
10 to 14 years	1,456	9,032	13	10
15 to 19 years	1,341	8,868	12	10
20 to 24 years	1,017	7,803	9	9
25 to 34 years	1,376	12,425	12	14
35 to 44 years	1,101	9,819	10	11
45 to 54 years	1,038	10,310	9	12
55 to 64 years	758	8,254	7	9
65 years and over	717	7,986	6	9
Median age	21.7	28.0	(X)	(X)
Female, all ages	12,464	93,625	100	100
Under 5 years	1,220	6,819	10	7
5 to 9 years	1,295	7,435	10	8
10 to 14 years	1,448	8,645	12	9
15 to 19 years	1,356	8,614	11	9
20 to 24 years	1,130	7,832	9	8
25 to 34 years	1,620	12,521	13	13
35 to 44 years	1,329	10,126	11	11
45 to 54 years	1,199	10,971	10	12
55 to 64 years	901	9,190	7	10
65 years and over	967	11,471	8	12
Median age	24.0	30.6	(X)	(X)

Note: Data are estimates of resident population as of July 1973.

X Not applicable.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

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INCOME

Income Levels and Selected Characteristics of Families

Between 1972 and 1973 the median income of black families increased by 5.9 percent to a level of $7,270. After adjustment for price changes during the year, however, the median income of these families showed no change over the 1972 level. In terms of constant dollars the median income of black families did not increase from 1969 to 1973; it had grown by 32 percent during the preceding period (1965 to 1969). The proportion of black families at the lower end of the income distribution has not changed over the last 4 years, whereas the proportion at the upper end increased slightly. The 1973 and 1969 proportion (16 percent) of families with less than $3,000 (in constant 1973 dollars) was lower than the 1965 level. By 1973, approximately 16 percent of the black families had incomes of $15,000 and over and 35 percent had incomes of $10,000 and over. While the gains in these proportions between 1969 and 1973 were modest, sharp increases were observed in the preceding period, 1965 to 1969 (tables 6, 8 and 9).

Since 1965, the percentage of black families who had achieved higher incomes grew faster in the South than in the North and West, however, the North and West had larger proportions of black families at the high income levels (table 9).

Reflecting these developments, the overall income differential between black and white families has widened since 1969. In 1973, the median income of black families was $7,270, about 58 percent of the $12,600 for white families; in 1969, the ratio was 0.61. The relative differences in income between black and white families had narrowed significantly during the 1960's (table 6).

Although the overall ratio declined between 1969 and 1973, the income ratio remained unchanged for male headed families (regardless of labor force status of wife) and the apparent increase in the ratio for female headed families was not statistically significant (table 7). Thus, the change in the overall ratio reflects the changes in the population mix such as, changes in the proportion of husband-wife families with wives in the paid labor force, proportion of families headed by women, the number of earners in a family, occupational distribution, and work experience patterns. For example, the proportion of black husband-wife families with a working wife dropped between 1969 and 1973. Also, the percentage of black families headed by females, who generally have lower incomes, increased.

Historically, black families have had a greater proportion of multiple earners than white families. Within recent years, however, there has been a decline in this proportion among black families. According to the 1974 survey, a reversal had occurred with black families having proportionately fewer multiple earners (50 percent) than white families (54 percent).

The number of earners and their relative importance in black and white families affects the size of the income gap between blacks and whites. In both 1969 and 1973, the incomes of black families with at least two earners were relatively closer to those of corresponding white families than were the incomes of black families with only one earner. Furthermore, within the last 4 years, the index of income overlap, an index of income comparability, rose only for those families with 2 or more earners, indicating a slight narrowing of the differences between black and white income distributions for those families (table 7).

Although the percentage of black families with 2 or more earners has declined, still, at each income level except the under $3,000 group, the average number of earners per family was higher for blacks than for whites. Generally, the earners in the black families had more people to support, as exhibited by the figures on average number of children per family with children and the nonearner-earner ratio. At the lowest end of the income distribution, the nonearner-earner ratio for black families was about one-third higher than that for white families. However, at the upper income levels, the nonearner-earner ratios were very similar for blacks and whites (table 10).

For both blacks and whites, the relationship of increased education of the head (median years of school completed) with increases in income levels was evident (table 10).

Information on families who purchased food stamps in May 1973 was gathered in a June 1973 Current Population Survey. Approximately 2.8 million families purchased food stamps in May 1973; of these, 4 out of 10 were families of Negro and other races. In contrast to all families, families who received food stamps, regardless of the race of the head, were more likely to have a female head, to have lower incomes and a greater proportion of large families (5 or more members), and to receive public assistance income. However, the characteristics of Negro and other races families who received food stamps differed in some respects from those of the comparable group of white families. Seventy percent of the Negro and other races families receiving food stamps had a female head; substantially higher than the 43 percent for white families. Approximately 61 percent of the Negro and other races families had four or more persons, whereas, the proportion was 45 percent for the comparable white families. About two-thirds of families of Negro and other races received public assistance income compared to about one-half of the white families. On the other hand, the income distribution of Negro and other races and white families who purchased food stamps appeared to be similar (table 11).

Table 6. Median Income of Families: 1950 to 1973

(In current dollars)

Year	Race of head			Ratio: Negro and other races to white	Ratio: Negro to white
	Negro and other races	Negro	White		
1950	$1,869	(NA)	$3,445	0.54	(NA)
1951	2,032	(NA)	3,859	0.53	(NA)
1952	2,338	(NA)	4,114	0.57	(NA)
1953	2,461	(NA)	4,392	0.56	(NA)
1954	2,410	(NA)	4,339	0.56	(NA)
1955	2,549	(NA)	4,605	0.55	(NA)
1956	2,628	(NA)	4,993	0.53	(NA)
1957	2,764	(NA)	5,166	0.54	(NA)
1958	2,711	(NA)	5,300	0.51	(NA)
1959	3,161	$3,047	5,893	0.54	0.52
1960	3,233	(NA)	5,835	0.55	(NA)
1961	3,191	(NA)	5,981	0.53	(NA)
1962	3,330	(NA)	6,237	0.53	(NA)
1963	3,465	(NA)	6,548	0.53	(NA)
1964	3,839	3,724	6,858	0.56	0.54
1965	3,994	3,886	7,251	0.55	0.54
1966	4,674	4,507	7,792	0.60	0.58
1967[1]	5,094	4,875	8,234	0.62	0.59
1968	5,590	5,360	8,937	0.63	0.60
1969	6,191	5,999	9,794	0.63	0.61
1970	6,516	6,279	10,236	0.64	0.61
1971[2]	6,714	6,440	10,672	0.63	0.60
1972[2]	7,106	6,864	11,549	0.62	0.59
1973[2]					
United States	7,596	7,269	12,595	0.60	0.58
South	6,495	6,434	11,508	0.56	0.56
North and West	8,943	8,378	13,049	0.69	0.64
Northeast	8,027	7,762	13,230	0.61	0.59
North Central	9,076	9,109	13,128	0.69	0.69
West	10,208	8,233	12,661	0.81	0.65

Note: The majority of the tables in this section show income data for the year 1972. Income figures for 1973 from the Current Population Survey conducted in March 1974, which recently became available, have been included in tables 6 to 9 of this section. Data for 1959 are from the 1960 census; figures for the remaining years are from Current Population Surveys.

NA Not available. The ratio of Negro to white median family income first became available from this survey in 1964.

[1]Revised, based on processing correction.

[2]Based on 1970 census population controls; therefore, not strictly comparable to data for earlier years. See Definitions and Explanations section for more details.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 7. Measures of Income in 1969 and 1973 of Families, by Type of Family and Number of Earners

(In current dollars)

Subject	Median income			Index of income overlap
	Negro	White	Ratio: Negro to white	
1969				
All families	$5,999	$9,794	0.61	0.71
Type of family:				
Male head[1]	7,273	10,211	0.71	0.76
Wife in paid labor force	9,134	11,886	0.77	0.77
Wife not in paid labor force	5,612	9,111	0.62	0.68
Female head	3,341	5,500	0.61	0.75
Number of earners:				
No earners	2,162	3,183	0.68	0.73
1 earner	4,416	8,450	0.52	0.59
2 earners	7,782	10,885	0.71	0.74
3 earners	9,027	13,978	0.65	0.64
4 earners or more	11,259	16,243	0.69	0.68
1973				
All families	$7,269	$12,595	0.58	0.71
Type of family:				
Male head[1]	9,549	13,253	0.72	0.79
Wife in paid labor force	12,226	15,654	0.78	0.81
Wife not in paid labor force	7,148	11,716	0.61	0.70
Female head	4,226	6,560	0.64	0.78
Number of earners:				
No earners	3,006	4,571	0.66	0.67
1 earner	5,726	10,813	0.53	0.60
2 earners	10,868	14,077	0.77	0.79
3 earners	11,739	18,586	0.63	0.67
4 earners or more	14,225	21,672	0.66	0.65

Note: The Index of Income Overlap of White and Negro is a statistical measure which summarizes the degree of overlap between the two distributions and is equal to 1.00 when the two distributions are identical. Specifically, the index, which was computed on the basis of detailed income intervals, measures the sum of the commonalities expressed in terms of percents shared between whites and blacks for each income class interval. For a more detailed explanation of Index of Income Overlap, see Bureau of the Census Technical Paper No. 22 "Measures of Overlap of Income Distribution of White and Negro Families in the United States."

[1]Includes other male heads not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 8. Distribution of Families by Income in 1965, 1969, and 1973

(Adjusted for price changes in 1973 dollars. Families as of the following year)

Income	Negro			White		
	1965	1969	1973	1965	1969	1973
Number of families.....thousands..	4,424	4,774	5,440	43,500	46,023	48,919
Percent.....	100	100	100	100	100	100
Under $3,000.....	24	16	16	8	6	5
$3,000 to $4,999.....	22	16	18	9	8	8
$5,000 to $6,999.....	17	15	14	10	9	9
$7,000 to $9,999.....	18	20	17	20	17	15
$10,000 to $11,999.....	8	10	9	14	12	11
$12,000 to $14,999.....	6	10	10	15	17	15
$15,000 and over.....	6	13	16	23	33	38
Median income.....	$5,510	$7,280	$7,269	$10,210	$11,869	$12,595
Net change over preceding date:						
Amount.....	(X)	$1,770	$-11	(X)	$1,659	$726
Percent.....	(X)	32.1	-0.2	(X)	16.2	6.1

X Not applicable.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 9. Percent of Families with Incomes of $10,000 or More and $15,000 or More, by Region: 1965, 1969, 1972, and 1973

(Adjusted for price changes in 1973 dollars. Incomes of $10,000 and $15,000 in 1973 were equivalent in purchasing power to about $7,100 and $10,650, respectively, in 1965)

Area and year	Negro		White	
	Income of $10,000 or more	Income of $15,000 or more	Income of $10,000 or more	Income of $15,000 or more
UNITED STATES				
1965	20	6	52	23
1969	33	13	61	33
1972	35	16	63	36
1973	35	16	64	38
SOUTH				
1965	10	3	41	17
1969	22	8	54	27
1972	27	12	56	30
1973	28	11	58	33
NORTH AND WEST				
1965	31	10	56	25
1969	44	18	64	35
1972	43	20	65	38
1973	42	21	66	40

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 10. Summary Measures of Family Characteristics, by Total Money Income in 1972

Selected characteristics	Total	Total family income						
		Under $3,000	$3,000 to $4,999	$5,000 to $6,999	$7,000 to $9,999	$10,000 to $14,999	$15,000 to $24,999	$25,000 and over
NEGRO								
Mean family income	$8,667	$1,852	$3,941	$5,884	$8,353	$12,183	$18,108	$33,867
Average number of:								
Related children per family with children	2.58	2.38	2.87	2.82	2.69	2.50	2.21	2.30
Earners per family	1.53	0.67	1.09	1.44	1.73	2.04	2.38	2.89
Ratio of nonearners to earners	1.62	4.04	2.59	1.90	1.39	1.11	0.76	0.71
Median age of head	42.0	40.0	42.2	42.3	40.8	42.6	42.9	45.9
Median school years completed	10.6	8.9	9.3	10.2	10.9	12.1	12.3	12.6
WHITE								
Mean family income	$13,105	$1,702	$4,010	$5,983	$8,476	$12,273	$18,666	$35,733
Average number of:								
Related children per family with children	2.14	2.00	2.13	2.12	2.12	2.14	2.18	2.10
Earners per family	1.66	0.69	0.88	1.20	1.49	1.75	2.17	2.33
Ratio of nonearners to earners	1.06	2.97	2.19	1.54	1.20	1.03	0.74	0.65
Median age of head	45.7	54.7	57.6	47.8	43.1	42.1	45.4	49.3
Median school years completed	12.4	9.1	9.0	10.7	12.1	12.4	12.7	14.2

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 11. Selected Characteristics of Families Reporting the Purchase of Food Stamps in May 1973

(Primary families as of June 1973)

Subject	Total	Negro and other races	White
Percent, purchased food stamps, by race	[1]100	42	58
Sex of head:			
Percent	100	100	100
Male head	46	30	57
Female head	54	70	43
Age of head:			
Percent	100	100	100
Under 25 years	12	13	12
25 to 64 years	74	77	71
65 years old and over	14	11	17
Size of families:			
Percent	100	100	100
2 persons	27	21	31
3 persons	20	17	22
4 persons	15	18	13
5 persons or more	36	43	32
Not reported	1	1	1
Receipt of public assistance income:			
Percent	100	100	100
Received public assistance	57	65	52
Did not receive public assistance	41	33	46
Not reported	2	2	2
Total money income:[2]			
Percent	100	100	100
Under $2,000	22	25	20
$2,000 to $2,999	24	25	23
$3,000 to $3,999	18	16	19
$4,000 to $4,999	12	12	11
$5,000 to $5,999	6	6	6
$6,000 and over	14	13	15
Not reported	5	3	5

Note: Statistics on food stamps are estimates based on information gathered in Current Population Survey, June 1973 conducted by the Bureau of the Census under the sponsorship of the Office of Economic Opportunity. See "Definitions and Explanations" section.

[1]Estimates derived from administrative data published by the U.S. Department of Agriculture show approximately 2,800,000 families purchasing food stamps in May 1973. Estimates derived from the June CPS data show approximately 2,280,000 primary families purchasing food stamps in May 1973. The difference between these numbers is the result of sampling and non-sampling errors inherent with data obtained using sample surveys, conceptual differences between the Food Stamp Program's definition of a household and the Bureau of the Census definition of a household, and possible errors in the Food Stamp Program's administrative recordkeeping system. In addition to the number of primary families reporting the purchase of food stamps, the June 1973 CPS data show approximately 830,000 households headed by a primary unrelated individual reporting the purchase of food stamps for May 1973. Data published by the U.S. Department of Agriculture show that the total number of persons in households participating in the Food Stamp Program in May 1973 was approximately 12,358,000. The comparable figure estimated from the June 1973 CPS data is 9,881,000, about 80 percent of the USDA figures.

[2]The money income level of families shown in this table may be somewhat understated. Income data from the June control card are based on the respondent's estimate of total family money income for the preceding 12 months coded in broad, fixed income intervals. For a more detailed explanation, see Bureau of the Census, Current Population Report P-20, No. 257.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

INCOME

Regional Variations

Within recent years, it has been noted that significant advances have been made in closing the black-white income gap by young black husband-wife families in the North and West.[1] Those black husband-wife families (head under 35) in which both the husband and wife were earners have actually achieved income parity with their white counterparts. Although these gains have been impressive, these black families in the North and West continue to comprise a very small proportion—6.2 percent of the 5.3 million black families in this country in March 1973.

In the South, young black husband-wife families (head under 35) have made substantial improvements in their income position relative to whites. These young black families in the South appear to have approximated somewhat, but with considerable lag, the pattern of their counterparts in the North and West. Between 1969 and 1972, the ratio of black to white median income of Southern families where both the husband and wife were present advanced from 73 to 84 percent (table 12).

The black working wife (and the number who worked year round) in the South, as previously observed in the North and West,[2] seems to be a major factor contributing to the narrowing income gap. In the South, the income ratio of black to white income only increased for those young husband-wife families with both spouses working (0.72 in 1969 to 0.84 in 1972). In contrast, the apparent change for young families where the head was the only earner was not statistically significant (table 13).

The mean earnings of black and white wives in the South were about the same ($3,400) in 1972; however, the young black wives were more likely to have earnings. Moreover, a higher proportion of black than white wives with earnings held a job the year round—50 and 42 percent, respectively. For black wives, this was a sharp increase—15 percentage points—over the 1969 proportion (tables 14 and 15). Like her counterpart in the North and West, the black wife in the South was contributing more to the family income than the comparable group of white wives (table 15).

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[1] See Current Population Reports P-23, No. 42, pages 33 to 36.
[2] Ibid.

Table 12. Median Family Income in 1959, 1969, and 1972 for All Negro Families and Negro Husband-Wife Families as a Percent of Corresponding White Families by Age of Head and Region

Area and year	All families		Husband-wife families	
	Total	Head under 35 years	Total	Head under 35 years
UNITED STATES				
1959	51	54	57	62
1969	61	66	72	80
1972	60	58	76	85
NORTH AND WEST				
1959	71	68	76	78
1969	73	74	86	91
1972	67	59	86	93
SOUTH				
1959	46	50	50	55
1969	57	62	65	73
1972	55	60	69	84

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 13. Median Income in 1969 and 1972 of Husband-Wife Families, by Age of Head, Earning Status of Husband and Wife, and Region

Race and earning status of husband and wife	Total			Head under 35 years old		
	United States	North and West	South	United States	North and West	South
1969						
Negro, total[1]	$7,329	$9,142	$5,944	$7,498	$8,859	$6,286
Husband only earner	5,574	6,681	4,341	5,792	6,500	5,059
Husband and wife both earners	8,954	11,064	6,998	8,423	10,130	6,670
White, total[1]	10,217	10,598	9,192	9,384	9,703	8,649
Husband only earner	8,992	9,402	8,108	8,805	9,137	7,927
Husband and wife both earners	11,711	12,139	10,681	9,926	10,267	9,227
Negro as a percent of white						
Total[1]	72	86	65	80	91	73
Husband only earner	62	71	54	66	71	64
Husband and wife both earners	77	91	66	85	99	72
1972						
Negro, total[1]	$9,165	$10,870	$7,547	$9,420	$10,573	$8,679
Husband only earner	6,949	7,954	5,401	6,984	7,563	6,375
Husband and wife both earners	11,566	13,716	9,513	10,611	12,300	9,420
White, total[1]	12,121	12,578	10,929	11,042	11,414	10,333
Husband only earner	10,750	11,155	9,661	10,175	10,630	9,055
Husband and wife both earners	14,095	14,660	12,895	11,834	12,170	11,228
Negro as a percent of white						
Total[1]	76	86	69	85	93	84
Husband only earner	65	71	56	69	71	70
Husband and wife both earners	82	94	74	90	101	84

[1]Includes other combinations not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 14. Distribution of Husband-Wife Families, by Earning Status of Husband and Wife in 1969 and 1972, Age of Head and Region

(Families as of the following year)

Race and earning status of husband and wife and work experience of wife	Total			Head under 35 years old		
	United States	North and West	South	United States	North and West	South
1969						
Earning Status of Husband and Wife						
Negro husband-wife families[1]..thousands..	3,249	1,533	1,716	1,046	532	514
Percent	100	100	100	100	100	100
Husband only earner	23	26	20	26	28	24
Husband and wife both earners	60	58	62	71	69	73
White husband-wife families[1]..thousands..	40,802	28,996	11,806	11,412	7,927	3,485
Percent	100	100	100	100	100	100
Husband only earner	35	35	34	44	46	41
Husband and wife both earners	45	44	46	54	52	58
Work Experience of Wife						
Negro wives with earnings..thousands	1,961	894	1,066	740	366	375
Percent worked 50 to 52 weeks	50	52	49	38	42	35
White wives with earnings..thousands	18,177	12,758	5,419	6,146	4,134	2,012
Percent worked 50 to 52 weeks	50	49	52	37	35	43
1972						
Earning Status of Husband and Wife						
Negro husband-wife families[1]..thousands..	3,233	1,557	1,676	1,018	485	534
Percent	100	100	100	100	100	100
Husband only earner	25	29	22	28	31	26
Husband and wife both earners	56	56	57	70	67	72
White husband-wife families[1]..thousands..	42,585	29,710	12,875	12,656	8,575	4,082
Percent	100	100	100	100	100	100
Husband only earner	34	34	33	41	43	38
Husband and wife both earners	45	44	47	57	55	61
Work Experience of Wife						
Negro wives with earnings..thousands	1,817	865	952	708	326	382
Percent worked 50 to 52 weeks	60	60	60	52	54	50
White wives with earnings..thousands	19,103	13,068	6,035	7,164	4,696	2,468
Percent worked 50 to 52 weeks	52	52	52	42	42	42

[1]Includes other combinations, not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 15. Earnings in 1972 of Husband and Wife for Families in Which Both Husband and Wife had Earnings, by Age of Head and Region

Race and earnings of husband and wife and work experience of wife	Total			Husband under 35 years old		
	United States	North and West	South	United States	North and West	South
NEGRO						
Mean family income	$12,387	$14,052	$10,872	$11,589	$12,551	$10,770
Mean earnings of husband	7,349	8,366	6,425	7,218	7,577	6,913
Mean earnings of wife	4,014	4,723	3,370	3,906	4,473	3,423
Earnings as a percent of family income	32	34	31	34	36	32
Wife worked 50 to 52 weeks	$5,299	$6,192	$4,487	$5,608	$6,345	$4,927
Earnings as a percent of family income	43	44	41	48	51	46
WHITE						
Mean family income	$15,432	$15,986	$14,231	$12,480	$12,743	$11,981
Mean earnings of husband	9,996	10,358	9,212	8,466	8,648	8,120
Mean earnings of wife	3,932	4,023	3,737	3,531	3,581	3,434
Earnings as a percent of family income	26	25	26	28	28	29
Wife worked 50 to 52 weeks	$5,601	$5,751	$5,276	$5,526	$5,630	$5,327
Earnings as a percent of family income	36	36	37	44	44	44
RATIO: NEGRO TO WHITE						
Mean family income	0.80	0.88	0.76	0.93	0.98	0.90
Mean earnings of husband	0.74	0.81	0.70	0.85	0.88	0.85
Mean earnings of wife	1.02	1.17	0.90	1.11	1.25	1.00
Wife worked 50 to 52 weeks	0.95	1.08	0.85	1.01	1.13	0.92

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

INCOME

Low Income

There were 7.4 million blacks and 15.1 million whites below the low-income level in 1973 constituting 31 and 8 percent of the respective populations. Within the last year (between 1972 and 1973) there was some evidence that the number of blacks below the low-income level had declined as the 1973 figure returned to the 1971 level. Since 1969, the number of low-income blacks has fluctuated as compared to the downward trend observed during the 1960's (table 16).

There were 1.5 million black families below the low-income level in 1973, comprising about 28 percent of all black families. Among whites, there were 3.2 million low-income families—about 7 percent of all white families. Between 1969 and 1973, the number of low-income black families increased; whereas, in 1973, the proportion (28 percent) of all black families was about the same as in 1969 (table 17).

The number of low-income black families in 1973 remained unchanged from the 1972 level; white families declined. Between 1972 and 1973, the number of low-income black families with a female head held constant. Female heads have comprised an increasing proportion of all low-income black families. In 1973, about 64 percent of the low-income black families were headed by women. Comparable proportions were 54 and 46 percents in 1969 and 1967, respectively. Male heads of families were still in the majority among low-income white families in 1973.

Families headed by women, both black and white, were more likely to be poor than those headed by men (table 17).

Female heads of low-income families were less likely than the male heads to have worked in 1972. Only about two-fifths of both black and white female heads had a job, compared with 78 percent of male heads. Most of the nonworking female heads did not work because of family responsibilities—7 out of 10 blacks and 8 out of 10 whites reported that they were keeping house (table 19).

For both black and white families, higher poverty rates were associated with large families, no earners in the family, a nonworking head, and a head without a high school diploma. However, the rates for black families with these characteristics were exceedingly large and substantially above those for the comparable group of white families. For example, about 54 percent of all black families with 4 or more children were below the low-income level in 1972; the comparable figure was 16 percent for whites (table 21).

The poverty rate for black families was lower in metropolitan areas than in nonmetropolitan areas—approximately 1 out of 4 compared to 4 out of 10, respectively; however, about 69 percent of low-income black families lived in metropolitan areas (table 22).

Within metropolitan areas, regardless of poverty status, black families were more likely to live in low-income areas than white families. Low-income areas in metropolitan areas are defined in terms of census tracts in which 20-percent or more of the population was below the low-income level in 1969. About 46 percent of metropolitan black families above the low-income level compared to a small proportion (6 percent) of the white families above the poverty level lived in the poverty areas. Among metropolitan poor families, the comparable proportions were 66 percent for blacks and 22 percent for whites. This pattern was also evident for the central cities. In the suburbs, the majority of black and white families lived outside low-income areas regardless of poverty status (table 23).

Table 16. Persons Below the Low-Income Level: 1959 to 1973

(Persons as of the following year)

Year	Number (thousands)			Percent below the low-income level		
	Negro and other races	Negro	White	Negro and other races	Negro	White
1959	10,430	9,927	28,336	53.3	55.1	18.1
1960	11,542	(NA)	28,309	55.9	(NA)	17.8
1961	11,738	(NA)	27,890	56.1	(NA)	17.4
1962	11,953	(NA)	26,672	55.8	(NA)	16.4
1963	11,198	(NA)	25,238	51.0	(NA)	15.3
1964	11,098	(NA)	24,957	49.6	(NA)	14.9
1965	10,689	(NA)	22,496	47.1	(NA)	13.3
1966[1]	9,220	8,867	19,290	39.8	41.8	11.3
1967	8,786	8,486	18,983	37.2	39.3	11.0
1968	7,994	7,616	17,395	33.5	34.7	10.0
1969[2]	7,488	7,095	16,659	31.0	32.2	9.5
1970[2]	7,936	7,548	17,484	32.0	33.5	9.9
1971[2]	7,780	7,396	17,780	30.9	32.5	9.9
1972[2]	8,257	7,710	16,203	31.9	33.3	9.0
1973[2]	7,831	7,388	15,142	29.6	31.4	8.4

Note: Most of the tables on the low-income population in this section show data for the year 1972. Figures for 1973 from the Current Population Survey conducted in March 1974 which recently became available, have been included in tables 16 to 18 of this section.

The low-income threshold for a nonfarm family of four was $4,540 in 1973, $4,275 in 1972, and $2,973 in 1959. Families and unrelated individuals are classified as being above or below the low-income threshold, using the poverty index adopted by a Federal Interagency Committee in 1969. This index centers around the Department of Agriculture's Economy Food Plan and reflects the differing consumption requirements of families based on their size and composition, sex and age of the family head, and farm-nonfarm residence. The low-income cutoffs for farm families have been set at 85 percent of the nonfarm levels. These cutoffs are updated every year to reflect the changes in the Consumer Price Index. The low-income data exclude inmates of institutions, members of Armed Forces living in barracks, and unrelated individuals under 14 years of age. For a more detailed explanation, see Current Population Reports, Series P-60, No. 91.

NA Not available.

[1] Beginning with the March 1967 CPS, data based on revised methodology for processing income data.

[2] Based on 1970 census population controls; therefore, not strictly comparable to data for earlier years. See Definitions and Explanations for more details.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 17. Families Below the Low-Income Level, by Sex of Head: 1959 and 1967 to 1973

(Families as of the following year)

Year	All families		Families with male head		Families with female head	
	Negro	White	Negro	White	Negro	White
	Number (thousands)					
1959	1,860	6,027	1,309	5,037	551	990
1967	1,555	4,056	839	3,019	716	1,037
1968	1,366	3,616	660	2,595	706	1,021
1969[1]	1,366	3,575	629	2,506	737	1,069
1970[1]	1,481	3,708	648	2,606	834	1,102
1971[1]	1,484	3,751	605	2,560	879	1,191
1972[1]	1,529	3,441	558	2,306	972	1,135
1973[1]	1,527	3,219	553	2,029	974	1,190
	Percent below the low-income level					
1959	48.1	14.8	43.3	13.4	65.4	30.0
1967	33.9	9.0	25.3	7.4	56.3	25.9
1968	29.4	8.0	19.9	6.3	53.2	25.2
1969[1]	27.9	7.7	17.9	6.0	53.3	25.7
1970[1]	29.5	8.0	18.6	6.2	54.3	25.0
1971[1]	28.8	7.9	17.2	5.9	53.5	26.5
1972[1]	29.0	7.1	16.2	5.3	53.3	24.3
1973[1]	28.1	6.6	15.4	4.6	52.7	24.5

[1]Based on 1970 census population controls; therefore, not strictly comparable to data for earlier years. See Definitions and Explanations for more details.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 18. Distribution of Persons Below the Low-Income Level in 1969, 1971, and 1973, by Family Status

(Persons as of following year)

Family status and year	All races	Negro	White	Negro as a percent of all races
1969				
Total.....thousands..	24,147	7,095	16,659	29
Percent.....	100	100	100	(X)
In families.....	79	88	76	33
Head.....	21	19	21	27
65 years and over.....	5	3	6	18
Related children under 18 years.....	39	52	34	39
Other family members.....	19	17	20	26
Unrelated individuals.....	21	12	24	17
65 years and over.....	11	5	14	13
1971				
Total.....thousands..	25,559	7,396	17,780	29
Percent.....	100	100	100	(X)
In families.....	80	88	76	32
Head.....	21	20	21	28
65 years and over.....	4	3	5	20
Related children under 18 years.....	40	52	36	37
Other family members.....	19	16	20	25
Unrelated individuals.....	20	12	24	17
65 years and over.....	10	4	12	12
1973				
Total.....thousands..	22,973	7,388	15,142	32
Percent.....	100	100	100	(X)
In families.....	80	89	75	36
Head.....	21	21	21	32
65 years and over.....	4	3	4	26
Related children under 18 years.....	41	52	36	40
Other family members.....	18	16	18	30
Unrelated individuals.....	20	11	25	18
65 years and over.....	9	4	11	14

X Not applicable.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 19. Persons 14 to 64 Years Old in Families Below the Low-Income Level in 1972, by Work Experience and Family Status

(Persons as of the following year)

Work experience	Negro			White		
	Head		Other family members	Head		Other family members
	Male	Female		Male	Female	
Total[1]....thousands..	447	897	2,023	1,738	1,025	3,721
Worked....thousands..	356	352	676	1,307	443	1,293
Percent....	100	100	100	100	100	100
50 to 52 weeks....	51	33	17	53	18	28
Full time....	46	22	10	48	14	14
1 to 49 weeks....	49	68	82	48	81	72
Did not work....thousands..	84	545	1,348	357	583	2,426
Main reason for not working:						
Percent....	100	100	100	100	100	100
Ill or disabled....	75	18	11	63	13	9
Keeping house....	-	72	22	-	81	49
In school....	6	3	59	6	3	38
Unable to find work....	12	7	6	11	3	2
Other....	7	-	3	20	1	2

- Represents zero.

[1] Includes persons in Armed Forces, not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 20. Work Experience of Women With Own Children Under 18 Years Old Below the Low-Income Level in 1972

(Numbers in thousands. Persons as of the following year)

Work experience of mother	Below low-income level		Percent below low-income level	
	Negro	White	Negro	White
Total, mothers	1,176	2,211	35	8
Wives	345	1,237	18	5
Female heads	832	974	57	34
Worked	459	885	22	7
Percent worked year-round full-time	19	15	9	3
Did not work	717	1,326	54	10
Main reason for not working:				
Percent	100	100	(X)	(X)
Keeping house	77	89	53	10
Other	23	11	60	23

X Not applicable.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 21. Selected Characteristics of Families by Low-Income Status: 1972

(Numbers in thousands. Families and persons as of the following year)

Subject	Negro			White		
	Total	Below low-income level		Total	Below low-income level	
		Number	Percent		Number	Percent
Presence of children:						
Total, families	5,265	1,529	29	48,477	3,441	7
Without related children under 18	1,615	226	14	21,714	1,203	6
With related children under 18	3,650	1,303	36	26,763	2,238	8
1 child	1,127	299	27	9,639	645	7
2 children	930	254	27	8,760	597	7
3 children	631	232	37	4,781	424	9
4 or more children	962	518	54	3,583	572	16
Number of earners:						
Total, families	5,265	1,529	29	48,477	3,441	7
No earners	793	593	75	4,514	1,241	27
1 earner	1,863	616	33	18,158	1,501	8
2 or more earners	2,609	320	12	25,805	699	3
Work experience of head:						
Total, 14 years old and over[1]	5,265	1,529	29	48,477	3,441	7
Worked last year	3,927	750	19	40,581	1,921	5
50 to 52 weeks	2,771	314	11	32,386	853	3
Full time	2,615	247	9	31,350	740	2
Did not work last year	1,282	773	60	7,112	1,497	21
Education of head:						
Total, 25 years old and over	4,712	1,302	28	44,883	2,988	7
Elementary: 0 to 8 years	1,722	604	35	10,109	1,390	14
High school: 1 to 3 years	1,162	386	33	6,967	603	9
4 years	1,216	241	20	15,272	690	5
College: 1 year or more	612	71	12	12,534	306	2

[1]Includes heads in Armed Forces.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 22. Low-Income Status of Families, by Region and Metropolitan-Nonmetropolitan Residence: 1972

(Numbers in thousands. Families as of the following year)

Area, type of residence, and race	Total number of families	Below the low-income level	
		Number	Percent of total
NEGRO			
United States	5,265	1,529	29
Metropolitan areas	4,117	1,059	26
Central cities	3,263	892	27
Outside central cities	854	167	20
Nonmetropolitan areas	1,148	471	41
North and West	2,590	598	23
Metropolitan areas	2,498	567	23
Nonmetropolitan areas	92	31	34
South	2,676	931	35
Metropolitan areas	1,619	491	30
Nonmetropolitan areas	1,057	440	42
WHITE			
United States	48,477	3,441	7
Metropolitan areas	32,303	1,819	6
Central cities	12,595	901	7
Outside central cities	19,708	918	5
Nonmetropolitan areas	16,174	1,622	10
North and West	33,968	2,091	6
Metropolitan areas	24,269	1,295	5
Nonmetropolitan areas	9,699	796	8
South	14,508	1,350	9
Metropolitan areas	8,034	524	7
Nonmetropolitan areas	6,475	826	13

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 23. Low-Income Area Residence of Families, by Low-Income Status in 1972, and Metropolitan-Nonmetropolitan Residence

(Persons as of following year)

Type of residence	Below low-income level		Above low-income level	
	Negro	White	Negro	White
United States.....thousands..	1,529	3,441	3,736	45,036
Percent.....	100	100	100	100
In low-income areas.....	70	36	50	14
Outside low-income areas.....	30	64	50	86
Metropolitan areas.....thousands..	1,059	1,820	3,058	30,483
Percent.....	100	100	100	100
In low-income areas.....	66	22	46	6
Outside low-income areas.....	34	78	54	94
Inside central cities...thousands..	892	901	2,371	11,693
Percent.....	100	100	100	100
In low-income areas.....	72	31	51	9
Outside low-income areas.....	28	69	49	91
Outside central cities..thousands..	166	919	688	18,789
Percent.....	100	100	100	100
In low-income areas.....	36	13	30	4
Outside low-income areas.....	64	87	70	96
Nonmetropolitan areas.....thousands..	471	1,622	677	14,552
Percent.....	100	100	100	100
In low-income areas.....	77	52	70	32
Outside low-income areas.....	23	48	30	68

Note: Low-income areas in metropolitan areas are defined in terms of census tracts and in nonmetropolitan areas in terms of minor civil divisions (townships, districts, etc.) in which 20 percent or more of the population was below the low-income level in 1969. For a more detailed discussion of the low-income population residing in poverty areas, see Current Population Reports, Series P-60, No. 91

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

III LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT

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LABOR FORCE

The employment situation for blacks in 1973 was improved substantially over 1972, in line with the overall trend of the economy. The 1973 economic expansion was reflected by a solid growth in employment and a decline in unemployment which was shared about proportionately by blacks and whites.

Workers and Nonworkers.

The Negro and other races labor force grew at about the same pace as that for whites in 1973. For Negro and other races, the labor force totaled about 10 million persons, an increase of 2.8 percent over 1972; during the same period, the number of white workers rose 2.4 percent. Over the last 5 years, both the Negro and other races and white labor force have grown about 12 percent (table 24).[1]

Labor force participation rates varied between Negro and other races and whites for most age and sex categories. In 1973, adult women of Negro and other races in nearly every age grouping were more likely than their white counterparts to be in the labor force. This pattern was in contrast to the situation for Negro and other races adult men, whose participation rates were generally lower than those of white adult men. Among teenagers of both sexes, Negro and other races were less likely to be in the labor force than whites (table 25).

Trends in labor force participation over the last 10 years have varied sharply for Negro and other races and whites. For example, the participation rate for men of Negro and other races in nearly every age group has declined over the decade. The pattern among white men has been different; participation rates have risen for white teenagers over the decade, remained about the same for those in the 20 to 44 age group, and declined for men 45 years of age and over. Among Negro and other races women, participation rates have increased sharply since 1963 for those 20 to 34 years old, while remaining statistically unchanged for younger women and women 55 years and over. During the same period, labor force rates have generally increased for white women except for the oldest age group.

Labor force participation rates for both Negro and other races and white adults 25 years of age or older in 1973 varied by years of schooling completed; generally, those who had completed higher levels of education were more likely to be in the labor force (table 26).

Among persons in the prime working ages (25 to 59 years old) who were not in the labor force in 1973, reasons for nonparticipation differed somewhat between Negro and other races and white women, but were quite similar for Negro and other races and white men. Home responsibilities, accounted for the nonparticipation of 75 percent of women of Negro and other races and 88 percent of white women. Negro and other races women were more likely than white women to be nonparticipants due to discouragement over job prospects[2] or because of ill health or disability. Among both Negro and other races and white adult men 25 to 59 years old, ill health and disability were the main reasons for being outside the labor force—about half the total—while discouragement over job prospects accounted for about 3 percent of the reasons for nonparticipation (table 27).

Unemployment.

Consistent with the economic recovery which continued throughout most of 1973, jobless rates from 1972 to 1973 declined to 8.9 percent for Negro and other races workers and 4.3 percent for white workers. The over-the-year decline was of about the same magnitude for Negro and other races and white workers. The Negro and other races-to-white unemployment rate ratio was 2.1 to 1 in 1973. This relationship has generally held at 2 to 1 or more since the Korean War period, except for a narrowing during 1970 and 1971 (table 28).

Between the last quarter of 1973 and the first quarter of 1974, however, jobless rates for both Negro and other races and whites moved back up—to 9.3 and 4.7 percent (seasonally adjusted), respectively; their unemployment rate ratio was 2 to 1 during the quarter (table 29).

[1] These labor force changes take into account the effects of 1970 Census population control adjustments made in January 1972 and March 1973. For further information, see footnote to table 25 and section on Definitions and Explanations.

[2] Shown as "think cannot get job" on table 27.

Unemployment--Continued

Negro and other races/white unemployment rate differentials occur in each major age-sex category, but the difference is most pronounced among teenagers. In 1973, the jobless rate for Negro and other races teens averaged 30.2 percent, 2.4 times the rate for white teens--12.6 percent. At 8.2 percent, the rate for Negro and other races adult women was 1.9 times that of white women while the 5.7 percent rate for Negro and other races men was twice that of white men. Over the last 10 years, this ratio has narrowed for adult men and widened for teenagers (table 30).

In line with the downturn in overall jobless rate from 1972 to 1973, those for married men with spouse present (who traditionally have the lowest rates among the major labor force categories) declined for both Negro and other races and whites. The Negro and other races to white jobless ratio for married men was 1.8 to 1 in 1973, compared to 1.7 to 1 in 1972 (table 31).

In October 1973, Negro and other races teenagers, both those who were enrolled in school and those who were not enrolled in school, were still about twice as likely to be unemployed as white teenage students and nonstudents. At the same time, students and nonstudents of Negro and other races were less likely than whites to be in the labor force (table 32).

The jobless rate for Vietnam era veterans 20 to 34 years old of Negro and other races was down to 8.4 percent in 1973. For both Negro and other races and whites, there was no statistical difference in jobless rates between veterans and nonveterans (table 33).

Jobless rates for blacks differ substantially by occupation of last job. Among the major occupational groupings in 1973, the lowest jobless rates were recorded among blacks in managerial occupations. Among white collar workers, sales workers had the highest unemployment rates; among blue collar workers, nonfarm laborers and operatives (other than transport equipment operatives) had the highest rates (table 34).

Unemployment rates were significantly higher among blacks than among whites in most major occupational groups in 1973. However, sharp differences existed in black-to-white jobless ratios. The widest jobless gap occurred among sales workers--3.4 to 1--while the black-to-white jobless ratio was lowest for nonfarm laborers--only 1.2 to 1.

Jobless rates for blacks also varied sharply by major industry group of last job; they were generally highest in those industries in which unemployment is traditionally severe. Among black men in 1973, jobless rates ranged from 11.6 percent among workers in construction to 2.7 percent for black men who last worked in finance, insurance, and real estate. Among black women, jobless rates ranged from 16.1 percent among workers in wholesale and retail trade to 3.8 percent among black women in transportation and public utilities (table 35).

Table 24. Labor Force Status of Persons: 1960 to 1973

(Numbers in thousands. Annual averages)

Year	Civilian labor force		Employed		Unemployed	
	Negro and other races	White	Negro and other races	White	Negro and other races	White
1960	7,714	61,913	6,927	58,850	787	3,063
1961	7,802	62,654	6,832	58,912	970	3,742
1962	7,863	62,750	7,004	59,698	859	3,052
1963	8,004	63,830	7,140	60,622	864	3,208
1964	8,169	64,921	7,383	61,922	786	2,999
1965	8,319	66,136	7,643	63,445	676	2,691
1966	8,496	67,274	7,875	65,019	621	2,253
1967	8,648	68,699	8,011	66,361	638	2,338
1968	8,760	69,977	8,169	67,751	590	2,226
1969	8,954	71,779	8,384	69,518	570	2,261
1970	9,197	73,518	8,445	70,182	752	3,337
1971	9,322	74,790	8,403	70,716	919	4,074
1972[1]	9,584	76,958	8,628	73,074	956	3,884
1973[1]	10,025	78,689	9,131	75,278	894	3,411

[1]Based on 1970 census population controls; therefore, not strictly comparable to data for earlier years. Census population control adjustments were introduced in January 1972 and March 1973. The 1972 adjustment raised the employment level for whites by about 255,000 and that for Negro and other races by about 45,000. The March 1973 adjustment lowered the employment level for whites by about 150,000, while Negro and other races levels were raised by about 210,000. Unemployment levels and rates were not significantly affected in either year.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 25. Civilian Labor Force Participation Rates by Age and Sex: 1963, 1968, and 1973

(Annual averages)

Age and sex	1963		1968		1973	
	Negro and other races	White	Negro and other races	White	Negro and other races	White
MEN						
Total, 16 years and over	80.2	81.5	77.6	80.4	73.8	79.5
16 and 17 years	37.2	42.4	37.9	47.7	33.4	52.7
18 and 19 years	69.1	67.8	63.3	65.7	61.4	72.3
20 to 24 years	88.6	85.8	85.0	82.4	81.8	85.8
25 to 34 years	94.9	97.4	95.0	97.2	91.7	96.3
35 to 44 years	94.9	97.8	93.4	97.6	91.3	96.8
45 to 54 years	91.1	96.2	90.1	95.4	88.0	93.5
55 to 64 years	82.5	86.6	79.6	84.7	70.7	79.0
65 years and over	27.6	28.4	26.6	27.3	22.6	22.8
WOMEN						
Total, 16 years and over	48.1	37.2	49.3	40.7	49.1	44.1
16 and 17 years	21.5	27.9	23.3	33.0	24.3	41.7
18 and 19 years	44.9	51.3	46.9	53.3	45.1	58.9
20 to 24 years	49.2	47.3	58.4	54.0	57.5	61.6
25 to 34 years	53.3	34.8	56.6	40.6	61.0	48.5
35 to 44 years	59.4	43.1	59.3	47.5	60.7	52.2
45 to 54 years	60.6	49.5	59.8	51.5	56.4	53.4
55 to 64 years	47.3	38.9	47.0	42.0	44.7	40.8
65 years and over	11.8	9.4	11.9	9.4	11.1	8.7

Note: The civilian labor force participation rate is the proportion of the civilian noninstitutional population that is in the labor force.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 26. Civilian Labor Force Participation Rates by Educational Attainment, Age, and Sex: March 1973

Years of school completed and sex	18 years and over		18 to 24 years		25 to 54 years		55 years and over	
	Negro and other races	White	Negro and other races	White	Negro and other races	White	Negro and other races	White
MEN								
Total	76.5	80.7	72.9	78.6	90.1	95.5	47.6	52.7
Elementary: 8 years or less	62.7	59.3	58.3	83.2	87.7	89.3	41.2	38.4
High school: 1 to 3 years	79.9	80.3	68.5	78.0	89.7	95.3	63.0	56.3
4 years	86.3	88.7	80.0	86.1	92.8	97.0	64.7	65.3
College: 1 to 3 years	76.8	81.4	68.1	66.8	87.7	94.8	(B)	65.5
4 years or more	86.1	90.9	(B)	81.5	91.3	97.6	61.0	68.6
WOMEN								
Total	51.1	43.9	53.1	58.9	59.7	51.0	28.9	23.6
Elementary: 8 years or less	31.9	22.8	31.4	31.8	46.0	39.5	21.4	14.2
High School: 1 to 3 years	47.6	38.5	38.3	44.6	54.0	45.8	38.0	23.9
4 years	61.6	50.3	61.3	62.9	63.8	52.6	44.6	31.2
College: 1 to 3 years	62.1	48.9	55.9	56.6	69.0	52.2	48.0	29.6
4 years or more	77.3	59.6	(B)	86.8	83.4	61.6	51.5	37.3

B Base too small for figures to be shown.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 27. Persons Not in the Labor Force by Reason for Nonparticipation, by Sex and Age: 1973

(Annual averages)

Sex and reason	16 years old and over		16 to 24 years		25 to 59 years		60 years and over	
	Negro and other races	White	Negro and other races	White	Negro and other races	White	Negro and other races	White
MEN								
Total number not in labor force.....thousands..	1,975	12,564	780	3,582	454	1,969	741	7,013
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In school.....	32.9	24.8	75.7	80.4	12.7	11.8	0.3	-
Ill health, disability.....	24.5	17.4	4.2	2.2	53.0	52.1	28.2	15.5
Home responsibilities.....	1.8	1.5	0.9	0.7	2.4	2.1	2.6	1.8
Retirement, old age.....	23.8	43.4	-	-	0.9	5.6	62.9	76.2
Think cannot get job.....	2.5	1.4	2.9	1.6	3.5	2.6	1.5	0.9
All other reasons.....	14.5	11.4	16.3	15.0	27.5	25.9	4.6	5.6
WOMEN								
Total number not in labor force.....thousands..	4,632	38,049	1,310	6,399	2,141	18,854	1,181	12,795
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In school.....	14.2	7.7	46.0	42.8	2.5	0.9	0.3	0.1
Ill health, disability.....	11.5	5.2	1.9	1.7	13.1	5.1	19.3	7.1
Home responsibilities.....	62.9	79.0	36.7	44.1	75.0	88.3	70.0	82.6
Retirement, old age.....	2.3	3.0	-	-	-	0.1	8.8	8.8
Think cannot get job.....	2.8	0.9	3.9	1.5	3.5	0.9	0.3	0.4
All other reasons.....	6.3	4.3	11.5	10.0	5.9	4.6	1.3	1.0

- Rounds to zero.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 28. Unemployment Rates: 1960 to 1973

(Annual averages)

Year	Unemployment rate		Ratio: Negro and other races to white
	Negro and other races	White	
1960	10.2	4.9	2.1
1961	12.4	6.0	2.1
1962	10.9	4.9	2.2
1963	10.8	5.0	2.2
1964	9.6	4.6	2.1
1965	8.1	4.1	2.0
1966	7.3	3.3	2.2
1967	7.4	3.4	2.2
1968	6.7	3.2	2.1
1969	6.4	3.1	2.1
1970	8.2	4.5	1.8
1971	9.9	5.4	1.8
1972	10.0	5.0	2.0
1973	8.9	4.3	2.1

Note: The unemployment rate is the percent of the civilian labor force that is unemployed.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 29. Unemployment Rates, by Sex and Age: 1973 and 1974

(Seasonally adjusted. Quarterly averages)

Sex, age, and race	1973				1974
	1st quarter	2nd quarter	3rd quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter
NEGRO AND OTHER RACES					
Total	9.0	9.0	9.0	8.6	9.3
Men, 20 years and over	5.6	6.1	5.7	5.3	6.4
Women, 20 years and over	8.4	7.8	8.1	8.4	8.0
Both sexes, 16-19 years	30.1	30.7	31.6	28.4	30.7
WHITE					
Total	4.5	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.7
Men, 20 years and over	3.1	3.0	2.8	2.8	3.1
Women, 20 years and over	4.5	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.7
Both sexes, 16-19 years	12.8	12.9	12.3	12.7	13.3

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 30. Unemployment Rates by Sex and Age: 1963, 1968, and 1973

(Annual averages)

Sex, age, and race	1963	1968	1973
NEGRO AND OTHER RACES			
Total	10.8	6.7	8.9
Men, 20 years and over	9.2	3.9	5.7
Women, 20 years and over	9.4	6.3	8.2
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years	30.4	25.0	30.2
NEGRO			
Total	(NA)	(NA)	9.3
Men, 20 years and over	(NA)	(NA)	5.9
Women, 20 years and over	(NA)	(NA)	8.5
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years	(NA)	(NA)	31.4
WHITE			
Total	5.0	3.2	4.3
Men, 20 years and over	3.9	2.0	2.9
Women, 20 years and over	4.8	3.4	4.3
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years	15.5	11.0	12.6
RATIO: NEGRO AND OTHER RACES TO WHITE			
Total	2.2	2.1	2.1
Men, 20 years and over	2.4	2.0	2.0
Women, 20 years and over	2.0	1.9	1.9
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years	2.0	2.3	2.4
RATIO: NEGRO TO WHITE			
Total	(NA)	(NA)	2.2
Men, 20 years and over	(NA)	(NA)	2.0
Women, 20 years and over	(NA)	(NA)	2.0
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years	(NA)	(NA)	2.5

Note: Data for 1968 and 1973 are not strictly comparable with 1963 data because of basic changes in the concepts and definitions introduced in January 1967.

NA Not available.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 31. Unemployment Rates for Married Men, With Spouse Present: 1962 to 1973

(Annual averages)

Year	Unemployment rate		Ratio: Negro and other races to white
	Negro and other races	White	
1962	7.9	3.1	2.5
1963	6.8	3.0	2.3
1964	5.3	2.5	2.1
1965	4.3	2.1	2.0
1966	3.6	1.7	2.1
1967	3.2	1.7	1.9
1968	2.9	1.5	1.9
1969	2.5	1.4	1.8
1970	3.9	2.4	1.6
1971	5.0	3.0	1.7
1972	4.5	2.6	1.7
1973	3.8	2.1	1.8

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 32. Work and School Status of Persons 16 to 19 Years Old: October 1973

(Numbers in thousands)

Work status	Negro and other races		White	
	Enrolled in school	Not enrolled in school	Enrolled in school	Not enrolled in school
Total population 16 to 19 years old	1,488	800	9,029	4,526
Employed	235	374	3,521	3,059
Unemployed	87	133	517	383
Looking for full-time work	7	121	21	345
Looking for part-time work	80	12	496	38
Not in labor force	1,166	293	4,991	1,084
Percent of population in labor force	21.6	63.4	44.7	76.0
Unemployment rate	27.0	26.2	12.8	11.1

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 33. Unemployment Rates of Men 20 to 34 Years Old, by Vietnam Era Veteran-Nonveteran Status and Age: 1970 to 1973

(Annual averages)

Age and year	Negro and other races		White	
	Vietnam era veterans	Nonveterans	Vietnam era veterans	Nonveterans
Total 20 to 34 years				
1970	11.3	8.1	6.1	4.8
1971	12.9	10.5	7.7	5.7
1972	11.7	9.6	6.2	5.2
1973	8.4	8.6	4.6	4.3
20 to 24 years				
1970	15.2	11.9	8.7	7.4
1971	17.6	15.8	11.6	8.5
1972	16.8	14.2	10.0	8.0
1973	13.5	12.3	8.3	6.0
25 to 29 years				
1970	7.4	6.6	4.1	3.4
1971	10.0	7.2	5.3	4.3
1972	9.2	6.7	4.6	3.8
1973	6.7	7.8	3.4	3.8
30 to 34 years				
1970	(B)	4.6	2.9	2.8
1971	5.5	6.6	3.3	3.2
1972	6.9	5.9	2.5	2.6
1973	2.8	4.0	2.6	2.2

B Base too small for figure to be shown.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 34. Unemployment Rates by Occupation and Sex: 1973

(Annual averages)

Occupation	Total		Men		Women	
	Negro	White	Negro	White	Negro	White
Total, all civilian workers	9.3	4.3	7.9	3.7	11.1	5.3
Experienced labor force	7.8	3.7	6.8	3.3	9.0	4.5
White-collar workers	6.7	2.7	5.1	1.7	7.6	3.8
Professional and technical workers	4.5	2.0	4.5	1.5	4.5	2.8
Managers and administrators, except farm	2.2	1.4	2.0	1.1	2.5	2.5
Sales workers	11.5	3.4	9.6	2.3	13.4	4.8
Clerical workers	8.2	3.8	6.0	2.7	9.0	4.1
Blue-collar workers	8.0	5.0	7.1	4.5	11.5	7.1
Craft and kindred workers	5.3	3.6	5.0	3.5	10.[illegible]	5.5
Operatives, except transport	9.4	5.6	7.7	4.5	11.7	7.3
Transport equipment operatives	5.1	3.9	5.1	3.9	3.8	2.7
Nonfarm laborers	9.5	8.1	9.2	8.1	14.3	8.6
Service workers	8.7	5.0	8.2	5.0	8.9	5.0
Private household	6.8	2.9	10.2	3.8	6.8	2.9
Other	9.2	5.2	8.1	5.0	10.0	5.4
Farm workers	6.0	2.2	4.9	2.0	14.3	2.5

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 35. Unemployment Rates by Industry and Sex: 1973

(Annual averages)

Industry	Men		Women	
	Negro	White	Negro	White
Total	7.9	3.7	11.1	5.3
Private nonagricultural wage and salary workers	7.3	3.8	9.9	5.3
Mining	(B)	3.0	(B)	1.0
Construction	11.6	8.8	(B)	5.1
Manufacturing	6.4	2.9	10.8	6.3
Durable goods	5.9	3.0	10.2	5.7
Primary metal industries	3.8	2.7	(B)	5.6
Fabricated metal products	5.9	3.9	(B)	6.4
Machinery	6.0	1.8	(B)	4.4
Electrical equipment	8.2	2.4	9.0	5.2
Motor vehicles and equipment	6.6	1.5	(B)	2.9
All other transportation equipment	6.3	4.4	(B)	8.3
Other durable goods industries	5.4	4.1	13.3	6.6
Nondurable goods	7.2	2.8	11.3	6.8
Food and kindred products	7.4	3.9	14.6	11.7
Textile mill products	5.5	2.5	8.6	4.9
Apparel and other finished textile products	10.6	5.5	10.5	6.7
Other nondurable goods industries	7.1	2.2	12.0	5.6
Transportation and public utilities	5.1	2.6	3.8	3.4
Railroads and railway express	3.7	1.8	(B)	(B)
Other transportation	5.6	3.9	(B)	4.5
Communication and other public utilities	3.6	1.2	3.8	2.6
Wholesale and retail trade	9.6	4.1	16.1	6.4
Finance, insurance, and real estate	2.7	1.7	8.5	3.2
Service industries	8.6	3.8	8.6	4.4
Professional services	6.4	2.4	7.9	3.3
All other service industries	10.1	5.0	9.0	6.2
Agricultural wage and salary workers	7.5	6.4	14.7	7.3
All other classes of workers	4.0	1.3	6.4	2.1

B Base too small for figure to be shown.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

EMPLOYMENT

At 9.1 million in 1973, the number of employed persons of Negro and other races was up about 4 percent over the year, compared to about a 3 percent rise for white persons. Over the last 5 years, the number of Negro and other races with jobs has risen about 9 percent compared to 11 percent for whites (see table 24).[3]

Early 1974 data show a change in this pattern of job growth, however. During the first quarter of the year, the number (seasonally adjusted) of employed Negro and other races and white workers remained statistically unchanged from the last quarter of 1973 (table 36).

In 1973, employed Negro and other races were more likely than whites to be working at part-time jobs for economic reasons.[4] Among Negro and other races, 4.2 percent of the employed men and 6.1 percent of the women were working part time involuntarily, while the comparable proportions among whites were 2.2 and 3.8 percent, respectively (table 37).

During the 1963-73 decade, there occurred a greater degree of occupational upgrading among employed Negro and other races than among their white counterparts; however, in 1973, Negro and other races still lagged far behind whites in the proportion holding high-paying, high-status jobs. For example, the proportion of men of Negro and other races employed in white-collar jobs rose from 15 to 23 percent over the decade while the comparable percentage for whites remained just over 40 percent. The proportion of Negro and other races men employed as craft workers rose from 11 to 15 percent over the decade, while for whites it remained around the 20 percent level (table 38). Among women of Negro and other races, a similar pattern occurred with respect to white-collar employment (table 39). Looked at another way, black men and women continued to be overrepresented in lower-paying, less-skilled jobs and underrepresented in better-paying, higher-skilled occupations. While black workers constituted about 10 percent of the employed population, they represented about 6 percent of the professional and technical workers, 3 percent of the managers and administrators, and 6 percent of the craft and kindred workers. In marked contrast, they made up about 20 percent of the nonfarm laborers and a similar proportion of service workers (table 40).

Similar labor market inequities are apparent in an examination of the industrial composition of the employed. Blacks made up about 6 percent of workers in both wholesale and retail trade and finance, insurance, and real estate, in contrast to 22 percent of the workers in personal service industries, including private household; 14 percent of those in hospitals and other health services; and 13 percent of those employed in public administration. The proportion of black workers in both durable and nondurable goods manufacturing industries in 1973 was about consistent with their overall proportion of the employed—10 percent (table 41).

In May of 1973, blacks represented 15.7 percent of all full-time Federal employees—about the same proportion as in November 1970. Also, in 1973, blacks held 12.2 percent of Federal jobs paid under the Federal Classification Act (General Schedule employees); 20.9 percent under Wage Systems; 19.5 percent under Postal Field Service; and 6.7 under all other pay systems. In the last three years these proportions changed very little; of the job categories, the Federal Classification Act system registered the largest increase (1.1 percent points) in the proportion of black workers.

In the period 1970 to 1973, the proportion of blacks in the higher grades—GS-12 to 18—increased moderately. Blacks now account for 3.3 percent of persons in grades GS-12 to 15, and 2.5 percent of those in grades GS-16 to 18 (tables 42).

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[3] See footnote 1.

[4] Includes slack work, material shortages, repairs to plant and equipment, start or termination of job during the week, and inability to find full-time work.

Earnings

Annual earnings of black men working at year-round full-time jobs averaged (median) $7,301 in 1972, about 69 percent those of white men–$10,593; moreover, earnings levels of black men were substantially below those of whites in nearly every major occupational category.

Some of these earnings differences may be due to the fact that blacks and whites are concentrated in different occupations within each of the major occupational categories for which data were tabulated, and the level of earnings varies for specific occupations. In addition, some of the black-white earnings variations are due to differences in age, education, and job experience of blacks and whites within each occupation.

In contrast to earnings patterns for black and white men, the earnings levels of black women working at year-round full-time jobs were closer to those of white women. Overall, black women averaged $5,147 in 1972, 86 percent of the average earnings of white women. Earnings levels of black women who were clerical, private household, or other service workers were approximately the same as their white counterparts (table 43).

When earnings differentials are examined by number of weeks worked and full-time/part-time status during the year, the data show that there is little variation from the overall black-white earnings pattern, particularly for men. Black men who were year-round, full-time workers received about 69 percent of the earnings of their white counterparts, while black part-time workers made 66 percent of white earnings. Among women working year round full time, blacks earned 86 percent of the earnings of whites, while black women who usually worked part time made 91 percent of the earnings of their white counterparts (table 44).

Work Experience

About 10.7 million persons of Negro and other races and 86.3 million white persons worked at some time during 1972. The percent of the population 16 years old and over who worked at some time during the year varied by race and sex. Among men, whites were more likely than persons of Negro and other races to have worked during the year–84 and 77 percent, respectively, while among women, the proportion of persons of Negro and other races with work experience was slightly greater than whites–54 and 52 percent, respectively (table 45).

Among men, year-round, full-time employment was more prevalent among whites than among Negro and other races; the proportion of men who usually worked at part-time jobs during the year was about the same for both races. Among women, there was a different work pattern during the year. Women of Negro and other races were more likely than whites to work at year-round full-time jobs in 1972, while white women were more likely to hold part-time jobs during the year.

The extent and duration of unemployment and the number of times unemployment was experienced during the year are important factors in determining the relative severity of joblessness for persons of Negro and other races and whites. In 1972, as in previous years, Negro and other races men and women were more likely to be unemployed at some time during the year, to accumulate more weeks of joblessness, and to have multiple spells of unemployment. About 22 percent of the Negro and other races workers compared to about 15 percent of the white workers were unemployed at some time during 1972. Long-term unemployment (a total of 15 weeks or more) was experienced by 41 percent o the unemployed persons of Negro and other races compared to 33 percent of the white jobless in 1972. As usual, 3 spells or more of unemployment were experienced by a slightly greater proportion of Negro and other races than whites. These Negro and other races-to-white differences in unemployment patterns during the year were of about the same magnitude for men and women (table 46).

Note: Consistent with the overall plan of this report, the section on Labor Force and Employment focuses primarily on the situation in 1973 and past trends in the status of black workers. Because of significant economic developments in late 1973 and early 1974, with resulting changes in the employment situation, limited employment and unemployment data on a quarterly basis for 1973 and 1974 have been included in this section. This provides the basis for a more current assessment of the employment status of blacks relative to whites.

Table 36. Employment Status: 1973 and 1974

(Numbers in thousands. Seasonally adjusted. Quarterly averages)

Labor force status and race	1973				1974
	1st quarter	2nd quarter	3rd quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter
NEGRO AND OTHER RACES					
Civilian labor force	9,820	9,946	10,105	10,232	10,376
Percent of population	60.2	59.8	60.4	60.7	60.9
Employment	8,940	9,047	9,191	9,348	9,409
Percent of population	54.8	54.4	54.9	55.4	55.2
Unemployment	880	899	914	884	967
Unemployment rate	9.0	9.0	9.0	8.6	9.3
WHITE					
Civilian labor force	77,792	78,510	78,856	79,648	80,125
Percent of population	60.5	60.9	60.9	61.2	61.4
Employment	74,270	75,062	75,559	76,287	76,393
Percent of population	57.7	58.2	58.3	58.7	58.5
Unemployment	3,522	3,448	3,297	3,361	3,731
Unemployment rate	4.5	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.7

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 37. Persons at Work in Nonagricultural Industries by Full- or Part-Time Status and Sex: 1973

(Annual averages)

Status	Men		Women	
	Negro and other races	White	Negro and other races	White
Total at work.....thousands..	4,602	41,941	3,649	25,990
Percent	100	100	100	100
Part-time for economic reasons	4	2	6	4
Voluntary part-time	6	7	18	25
On full-time schedules[1]	89	91	76	72
40 hours or less	67	52	66	57
41 hours or more	22	39	10	14
Average hours, total at work	39.3	42.3	34.7	34.3
Average hours, workers on full-time schedules	41.7	44.7	39.6	40.5

[1]Includes persons who usually work full-time but worked part-time for noneconomic reasons.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 38. Occupation of Employed Men: 1963, 1968, and 1973

(Annual averages)

Occupation	1963		1968		1973	
	Negro and other races	White	Negro and other races	White	Negro and other races	White
Total number employed....thousands..	4,229	40,428	4,702	43,411	5,133	46,830
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White-collar workers	15.3	40.6	19.0	42.0	22.9	41.7
Professional and technical	4.9	12.6	6.6	14.1	8.2	14.2
Medical and other health	0.7	1.3	0.9	1.4	1.0	1.4
Teachers, except college	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.4	1.4	1.7
Other professional and technical	3.2	10.1	4.7	11.3	5.8	11.0
Managers and administrators, except farm	3.5	14.9	3.6	14.7	5.2	14.5
Salaried workers	1.4	8.5	1.9	10.6	3.7	11.5
Self-employed	2.1	6.4	1.8	4.0	1.5	2.9
Sales workers	1.7	5.9	1.7	6.1	2.1	6.5
Retail trade	0.9	2.3	1.0	2.4	1.2	2.4
Other industries	0.8	3.6	0.8	3.7	0.9	4.1
Clerical workers	5.2	7.2	7.1	7.1	7.4	6.5
Blue-collar workers	57.3	45.8	59.7	46.1	57.7	46.3
Craft and kindred workers	10.7	20.3	13.4	20.9	14.9	21.5
Carpenters	1.1	1.9	1.0	1.9	1.2	2.2
Construction craft workers, except carpenters	3.0	4.1	3.3	4.0	3.9	4.6
Mechanics and repairers	3.4	5.1	4.4	5.5	3.9	5.7
Metal craft workers	0.9	2.5	1.4	2.7	1.3	2.3
Blue-collar supervisors, n.e.c.	1.7	2.8	0.9	3.0	1.7	2.7
All other craft workers	0.6	3.9	2.3	3.8	2.9	4.1
Operatives, except transport	17.7	14.4	20.8	14.4	17.4	12.3
Transport equipment operatives	7.7	5.1	7.4	4.9	9.1	5.7
Nonfarm laborers	21.2	6.0	18.1	5.9	16.3	6.8
Service workers	16.3	6.0	14.5	6.1	15.4	7.1
Farm workers	11.0	7.6	6.8	5.9	3.9	4.9
Farmers and farm managers	3.4	5.2	2.0	4.0	1.1	3.2
Farm laborers and supervisors	7.6	2.4	4.8	1.9	2.8	1.7

Note: Beginning with 1971, occupational employment data are not strictly comparable with statistics for 1970 and earlier years as a result of changes in the occupational classification system for the 1970 Census of Population that were introduced in January 1971, and the addition of a question to the Current Population Survey in December 1971 relating to major activities and duties. For an explanation of these changes, see Bureau of the Census Technical Paper No. 26 and Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings (monthly), Explanatory Notes.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 39. Occupation of Employed Women: 1963, 1968, and 1973

(Annual averages)

Occupation	1963		1968		1973	
	Negro and other races	White	Negro and other races	White	Negro and other races	White
Total number employed.....thousands..	2,911	20,194	3,467	24,340	3,999	28,448
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White-collar workers	21.2	60.8	31.6	63.1	41.5	63.3
Professional and technical	7.8	13.5	9.5	14.6	12.0	14.9
Medical and other health	1.6	3.7	2.3	3.8	3.4	3.8
Teachers, except college	4.5	5.7	4.7	5.8	5.0	6.5
Other professional and technical	1.7	4.1	2.5	5.0	3.7	4.6
Managers and administrators, except farm	1.5	5.3	1.6	4.9	2.6	5.2
Salaried workers	0.6	3.1	0.8	3.3	1.9	4.0
Self-employed	1.0	2.2	0.7	1.6	0.8	1.2
Sales workers	1.7	8.2	2.2	7.6	2.5	7.5
Retail trade	1.4	7.2	1.9	6.7	2.2	6.3
Other industries	0.3	0.9	0.3	0.9	0.3	1.2
Clerical workers	10.2	33.8	18.3	36.0	24.4	35.7
Stenographers, typists, and secretaries	3.0	12.3	5.0	12.8	8.0	13.4
Other clerical workers	7.2	21.6	13.3	23.2	16.4	22.3
Blue-collar workers	14.8	16.7	18.8	16.6	19.1	15.7
Craft and kindred workers	0.5	1.1	0.8	1.2	1.1	1.5
Operatives, except transport	13.5	15.1	17.3	14.7	16.4	12.9
Transport equipment operatives	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.5
Nonfarm laborers	0.7	0.3	0.6	0.4	1.2	0.9
Service workers	56.7	19.5	47.2	18.2	38.1	19.3
Private household workers	34.3	4.9	22.1	3.8	12.9	2.9
Service workers, except private household	22.4	14.6	25.1	14.4	25.2	16.4
Farm workers	7.2	3.0	2.5	2.1	1.3	1.6
Farmers and farm managers	0.8	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.3
Farm laborers and supervisors	6.4	2.5	2.3	1.8	1.2	1.3

Note: Beginning with 1971, occupational employment data are not strictly comparable with statistics for 1970 and earlier years as a result of changes in the occupational classification system for the 1970 Census of Population that were introduced in January 1971, and the addition of a question to the Current Population Survey in December 1971 relating to major activities and duties. For an explanation of these changes, see Bureau of the Census Technical Paper No. 26 and Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings (monthly), Explanatory Notes.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 40. Occupation of the Employed Population: 1973

(Numbers in thousands. Annual averages)

Occupation	Total	Negro	White	Percent Negro of total
Total employed	84,409	8,061	75,278	9.5
White-collar workers	40,386	2,302	37,545	5.7
Professional and technical	11,777	684	10,876	5.8
Engineers	1,094	15	1,053	1.4
Medical and other health	1,939	124	1,754	6.4
Teachers, except college	2,916	253	2,644	8.7
Other professional and technical	5,828	291	5,426	5.0
Managers and administrators, except farm	8,644	280	8,270	3.2
Salaried workers	6,815	202	6,548	3.0
Self-employed	1,829	78	1,722	4.3
Sales workers	5,415	167	5,207	3.1
Retail trade	3,074	123	2,921	4.0
Other industries	2,342	44	2,286	1.9
Clerical workers	14,548	1,171	13,192	8.0
Stenographers, typists, and secretaries	4,206	269	3,880	6.4
Other clerical workers	10,342	902	9,313	8.7
Blue-collar workers	29,869	3,411	26,147	11.4
Craft and kindred workers	11,288	713	10,479	6.3
Carpenters	1,078	49	1,018	4.5
Construction craft workers, except carpenters	2,357	185	2,152	7.8
Mechanics and repairers	2,903	170	2,702	5.9
Metal craft workers	1,159	65	1,086	5.6
Blue-collar supervisors, n.e.c.	1,460	87	1,364	6.0
All other craft workers	2,333	158	2,157	6.8
Operatives, except transport	10,972	1,410	9,425	12.9
Transport equipment operatives	3,297	467	2,814	14.2
Drivers and delivery workers	2,798	370	2,416	13.2
All other	498	98	398	19.7
Nonfarm laborers	4,312	821	3,429	19.0
Construction	854	178	665	20.8
Manufacturing	1,100	230	859	20.9
Other industries	2,358	413	1,905	17.5
Service workers	11,128	2,130	8,814	19.1
Private household	1,353	509	833	37.6
Service workers, except private household	9,775	1,621	7,981	16.6
Cleaning service workers	2,076	577	1,470	27.8
Food service workers	3,402	401	2,907	11.8
Health service workers	1,596	352	1,225	22.1
Personal service workers	1,543	177	1,346	11.5
Protective service workers	1,158	115	1,033	9.9
Farm workers	3,027	219	2,772	7.2
Farmers and farm managers	1,664	51	1,602	3.1
Farm laborers and supervisors	1,363	168	1,170	12.3

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 41. Industry Group of the Employed Population: 1973

(Annual averages)

Industry	Negro	White	Percent Negro of total
Total, 16 years old and over..thousands....	8,061	75,278	10
Percent	100	100	(X)
Agriculture, forestry, and fisheries	3	4	7
Mining	-	1	4
Construction	5	7	8
Manufacturing	25	25	10
Durable goods	15	15	9
Motor vehicles and motor vehicle equipment	2	1	15
Nondurable goods	11	10	10
Food and kindred products	2	2	11
Transportation, communications, and other public utilities	7	6	11
Transportation	4	4	11
Wholesale trade	2	4	6
Retail trade	11	17	6
Eating and drinking places	3	4	8
Finance, insurance, and real estate	3	6	6
Service industries	35	26	13
Personal services, including private household	11	4	22
Business services	2	2	9
Repair services	1	1	8
Entertainment and recreation	1	1	7
Professional and related services	21	17	11
Health services, including hospitals	9	6	14
Education	9	8	11
All other professional services	3	4	7
Public administration	7	5	12

-Rounds to zero.
X Not applicable.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 42. Federal Employment Pay Plan and Grade Grouping: 1970 and 1973

Pay system and grade grouping	May 1973		Percent Negro	
	Total	Negro	May 1973	November 1970
Total, all pay plans[1]	2,524,968	395,409	15.7	15.2
General Schedule and similar plans	1,330,581	162,203	12.2	11.1
GS-1 to 4	314,999	69,051	21.9	22.3
GS-5 to 8	386,860	62,585	16.2	14.0
GS-9 to 11	314,738	20,339	6.5	5.3
GS-12 to 15	308,267	10,087	3.3	2.6
GS-16 to 18	5,717	141	2.5	1.6
Wage Systems, total[2]	472,301	98,736	20.9	20.5
Regular nonsupervisory	360,636	79,642	22.1	(NA)
WG-1 to 6	135,190	51,965	38.4	(NA)
WG-7 to 9	89,714	17,517	19.5	(NA)
WG-10 to 12	131,097	10,034	7.7	(NA)
WG-13 to 15	4,635	126	2.7	(NA)
Regular Leader	13,648	2,589	19.0	(NA)
WL-1 to 6	4,354	1,879	43.2	(NA)
WL-7 to 9	3,519	492	14.0	(NA)
WL-10 to 12	5,633	214	3.8	(NA)
WL-13 to 15	142	4	2.8	(NA)
Regular Supervisory	38,958	4,836	12.4	(NA)
WS-1 to 6	9,544	3,277	34.3	(NA)
WS-7 to 12	25,806	1,512	5.9	(NA)
WS-13 to 15	3,281	46	1.4	(NA)
WS-16 to 19	327	1	0.3	(NA)
Nonsupervisory (production facilitating)	5,241	190	3.6	(NA)
Supervisory (production facilitating)	412	2	0.5	(NA)
Other wage systems	53,406	11,477	21.5	(NA)
Postal Field Service	667,910	130,413	19.5	19.4
PFS-1 to 5[3]	557,999	114,005	20.4	20.6
PFS-6 to 9	45,089	11,225	24.9	14.9
PFS-10 to 16	43,141	4,155	9.6	4.9
PFS-17 to 19	14,457	693	4.8	2.6
PFS-20 to 29	7,167	329	4.6	5.1
PFS-30 to 42	57	6	10.5	(X)
Other pay systems	51,675	3,487	6.7	6.3

NA Not available.
X Not applicable.
[1]Includes other pay plans, not shown separately.
[2]In 1970-71 the majority of Federal employees under wage systems were converted to one of the Coordinated Federal Wage Systems (CFWS)-Regular Nonsupervisory, Regular Leader, and Regular Supervisory. The remaining employees were in "other wage systems," which will eventually be converted to the CFWS.
[3]Includes 4th class postmasters and rural carriers.

Source: U.S. Civil Service Commission.

Table 43. Median Earnings in 1972 of Civilians 14 Years Old and Over, by Occupation of Longest Job, Work Experience, and Sex

Occupation	Men		Women		Ratio: Negro to white	
	Negro	White	Negro	White	Men	Women
ALL WORKERS						
Total, with earnings	$5,405	$8,332	$3,042	$3,190	0.65	0.95
Professional, technical, and kindred workers	7,946	12,339	7,181	6,307	0.64	1.14
Managers and administrators, except farm	9,141	12,825	6,479	5,531	0.71	1.17
Farmers and farm managers	(B)	4,258	(B)	1,614	(B)	(B)
Clerical and kindred workers	7,248	8,272	4,160	4,294	0.88	0.97
Sales workers	3,201	8,304	2,114	1,609	0.39	1.31
Craft and kindred workers	7,229	9,340	(B)	3,906	0.77	(B)
Operatives, including transport workers	5,940	7,359	3,535	3,418	0.81	1.03
Private household workers	(B)	(B)	1,083	349	(B)	3.10
Service workers, except private household	4,427	4,226	2,831	1,693	1.05	1.67
Farm laborers and supervisors	1,332	1,141	394	417	1.17	0.94
Laborers, except farm	3,959	2,900	(B)	1,580	1.37	(B)
YEAR-ROUND FULL-TIME WORKERS						
Total, with earnings	$7,301	$10,593	$5,147	$5,998	0.69	0.86
Professional, technical, and kindred workers	9,467	13,726	8,003	8,776	0.69	0.92
Managers and administrators, except farm	9,964	13,614	(B)	6,976	0.73	(B)
Farmers and farm managers	(B)	5,173	(B)	3,022	(B)	(B)
Clerical and kindred workers	8,194	9,931	5,963	6,061	0.83	0.98
Sales workers	(B)	11,674	(B)	4,473	(B)	(B)
Craft and kindred workers	8,488	10,553	(B)	5,536	0.80	(B)
Operatives, including transport workers	7,085	9,025	4,696	5,076	0.79	0.93
Private household workers	(B)	(B)	2,364	2,253	(B)	1.05
Service workers, except private household	6,172	8,019	4,522	4,454	0.77	1.02
Farm laborers and supervisors	(B)	4,794	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Laborers, except farm	5,910	7,819	(B)	4,637	0.76	(B)

B Base too small for figures to be shown.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 44. Median Earnings of Persons With Work Experience in 1972, by Sex

(Persons 14 years and over as of following year)

Work experience	Men			Women		
	Negro	White	Ratio: Negro to White	Negro	White	Ratio: Negro to White
Worked at full-time jobs	$6,238	$9,295	0.67	$4,016	$4,671	0.86
50 to 52 weeks	7,301	10,593	0.69	5,147	5,998	0.86
40 to 49 weeks	5,621	7,544	0.75	3,682	4,309	0.85
27 to 39 weeks	3,931	5,298	0.74	2,931	2,983	0.98
14 to 26 weeks	2,684	2,727	0.98	1,740	1,831	0.95
1 to 13 weeks	658	872	0.75	444	531	0.84
Worked at part-time jobs	675	1,023	0.66	794	873	0.91
50 to 52 weeks	1,371	1,774	0.77	1,562	2,036	0.77
40 to 49 weeks	(B)	1,927	(B)	874	1,645	0.53
27 to 39 weeks	(B)	1,466	(B)	1,246	1,295	0.96
14 to 26 weeks	942	917	1.03	691	712	0.97
1 to 13 weeks	307	346	0.89	301	306	0.98

B Base too small for figures to be shown.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 45. Persons Who Worked During 1972, by Full- and Part-Time Job Status

Extent of employment	Men		Women	
	Negro and other races	White	Negro and other races	White
Total, all workers....thousands..	5,764	51,290	4,898	35,020
Percent of population.....	77	84	54	52
Percent of persons who worked..	100	100	100	100
Full time[1].....	86	88	75	68
50 to 52 weeks.....	62	68	47	42
27 to 49 weeks.....	13	12	12	12
1 to 26 weeks.....	12	8	16	14
Part time.....	14	12	25	32
50 to 52 weeks.....	4	4	9	11
27 to 49 weeks.....	3	3	5	7
1 to 26 weeks.....	7	5	11	14

[1]Usually worked 35 hours or more a week.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 46. Extent of Unemployment During 1972, by Sex

(Numbers in thousands)

Extent of unemployment	Both sexes		Men		Women	
	Negro and other races	White	Negro and other races	White	Negro and other races	White
Total who worked or looked for work during the year	11,267	87,762	5,978	51,818	[illegible]	35,944
Percent with unemployment	22	15	22	14	23	15
Total with unemployment	[illegible]	12,770	1,323	7,475	1,194	5,295
Did not work but looked for work	605	1,452	214	528	391	924
With work experience	1,912	11,318	1,109	6,947	803	4,371
Percent	100	100	100	100	100	100
Year-round workers[1] with 1 or 2 weeks of unemployment	8	9	9	11	8	6
Part-year workers[2] with unemployment	92	91	91	90	93	[illegible]
With unemployment of:						
1 to 4 weeks	23	26	21	22	27	33
5 to 14 weeks	27	32	28	34	26	28
15 weeks or more	41	33	43	34	40	33
Percent with 2 spells or more of unemployment	35	32	38	34	32	28
2 spells	15	16	15	17	15	15
3 or more	20	16	23	18	17	13

[1]Worked 50 or 51 weeks.
[2]Worked less than 50 weeks.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

IV EDUCATION

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EDUCATION

School Enrollment

In 1973, 7.2 million blacks and 43.3 million whites were enrolled in school at all levels. There were 600,000 black pupils enrolled in nursery school and kindergarten and 4.5 million in elementary school (grades 1 to 8). In addition, about 2.0 million black students were in high school (grades 9 to 12) and 700,000 in college. Between 1970 and 1973, the number of blacks enrolled in high school and college increased. The decline in elementary school enrollment of blacks during this period reflects a decrease in the population of elementary school age in recent years, the result of a drop in the number of births which began in the 1960's (table 47).

Among blacks, school participation rates for most of the age groups shown in table 48 did not change significantly during the last 3 years. The exception was the preschool age group (3 to 5 years old) which had a substantial increase.

For both races, virtually all children of the compulsory attendance ages (6 to 15 years old) were enrolled in school. The percent enrolled (88 percent) was the same for blacks and whites of the slightly older age group—16 and 17 years—in 1973 (table 48).

The proportion of black women (18 to 24 years) enrolled in college appears to have leveled off in the 1970's after a rise during the preceding period, 1965 to 1970. On the other hand, the college participation rate for black men of the same age has tended to increase over the entire period. Thus, in 1973, a higher proportion of black men than women was enrolled in college (19 versus 14 percent). In 1965, the rate was the same for both men and women—10 percent (table 49).

Table 47. School Enrollment of Persons 3 to 34 Years Old, by Level: 1967, 1970, and 1973

(Numbers in thousands. Minus sign (-) denotes decrease)

Level of school and race	1967	1970	1973	Percent change	
				1967 to 1970	1970 to 1973
BLACK					
Total	6,826	7,307	7,150	7.0	-2.2
Nursery	140	178	210	27.1	18.0
Kindergarten	418	426	423	1.9	-0.7
Elementary school	4,618	4,868	4,473	5.4	-8.1
High school	1,651	1,834	2,044	11.1	11.5
College	370	522	684	41.1	31.0
WHITE					
Total	43,816	44,960	43,293	2.6	-3.7
Nursery	564	893	1,087	58.3	21.7
Kindergarten	2,840	2,706	2,584	-4.7	-4.5
Elementary school	28,415	28,638	26,531	0.8	-7.4
High school	11,997	12,723	13,091	6.1	2.9
College	5,905	6,759	7,324	14.5	8.4

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 48. Percent Enrolled in School by Age: 1965, 1970, and 1973

Age	Black			White		
	1965	1970	1973	1965	1970	1973
3 and 4 years	[1]12	23	29	10	20	23
5 years	59	72	81	72	81	87
6 to 15 years	99	99	99	99	99	99
16 and 17 years	84	86	88	88	91	88
18 and 19 years	40	40	38	47	49	43
20 to 24 years	9	14	16	20	23	21

[1]Includes persons of "other races."

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 49. College Enrollment of Persons 18 to 24 Years Old: 1965, 1970, and 1973

(Numbers in thousands)

Subject	Black			White		
	1965	1970	1973	1965	1970	1973
BOTH SEXES						
Total persons 18 to 24 years...	2,091	2,692	3,114	16,269	19,608	21,766
Number enrolled in college.....	210	416	498	4,213	5,305	5,438
Percent of total.....	10	15	16	26	27	25
MALE						
Total persons 18 to 24 years...	977	1,220	1,434	7,713	9,053	10,511
Number enrolled in college.....	99	192	266	2,593	3,096	3,032
Percent of total.....	10	16	19	34	34	29
FEMALE						
Total persons 18 to 24 years...	1,114	1,471	1,681	8,556	10,555	11,255
Number enrolled in college.....	111	225	231	1,620	2,209	2,406
Percent of total.....	10	15	14	19	21	21

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economics Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

EDUCATION

Educational Attainment

The major improvements in education made by young blacks are evidenced by the increases in the proportions who are high school or college graduates. From 1970 to 1973, the proportion of black men (20 to 24) who were high school graduates increased sharply from 62 to 70 percent; in 1965, the percentage was much lower—50 percent. Young black women also have made educational gains over the last 8-year period.

The percentage of black men and women (20 to 24 years) who had furthered their education beyond high school rose to about 27 percent in 1973. In 1965, the comparable proportion was about 15 percent. Despite these impressive achievements, young black adults were still less likely than whites to have completed high school or to have some college education (table 50).

In the early years of this decade (1970 to 1973) black adults, 25 to 34 years old, continued to make advances in completing their college education; still, by 1973, only about 8 percent were college graduates. This proportion of blacks was below the 1960 level (12 percent) observed for the comparable group of whites (table 51).

Table 50. Level of Schooling Completed by Persons 20 to 24 Years Old, by Sex: 1960, 1965, 1970, and 1973

Subject	Male		Female	
	Black	White	Black	White
Percent completed 4 years of high school or more:				
1960	[1]39	65	[1]45	68
1965	50	76	48	77
1970	62	83	67	83
1973	70	85	72	85
Percent completed 1 year of college or more:				
1960	[1]12	28	[1]13	22
1965	14	36	15	26
1970	23	44	23	35
1973	27	46	25	37

[1]Includes persons of "other races."

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 51. Percent of Population 25 to 34 Years Old Who Completed 4 Years of College or More, by Sex: 1960, 1966, 1970, and 1973

Year	Black			White		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
1960	4.1	4.1	4.0	11.9	15.8	8.3
1966	5.7	5.2	6.1	14.6	18.9	10.4
1970	6.1	5.8	6.4	16.6	20.9	12.3
1973	8.3	8.0	8.5	19.0	22.6	15.5

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

V FAMILY AND FERTILITY

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FAMILY

Structure and Composition

The proportion of black families that were husband-wife families declined from 73 to 68 percent over the five-year period, 1965 to 1970. This trend continued so that by 1974 the proportion was 62 percent. On the other hand, the proportion of families headed by a woman rose from 24 percent in 1965 to 34 percent in 1974. Among white families, only a slight increase was noted in the proportion with a female head—9 percent in 1965 to 10 percent in 1974.

Between 1973 and 1974, the proportion of black families headed by a woman showed no statistically significant change for the first time in several years (table 52).

The 1.8 million black female heads in 1973 accounted for about 28 percent of all female heads in the country. About 49 percent of the black female heads and 45 percent of white female heads had a disrupted marriage because of separation or divorce. Separation was more prevalent among blacks, whereas divorce was more common among whites. Higher percentages of black women than white women who were heads of families were single, but lower proportions of the black than of the white women were widowed.

Among the younger age group (under 45 years), disrupted marriages were more frequent among white female heads than among black female heads. The majority of the older women (45 years and over) who headed families, both black and white, were widowed (table 53).

Black female heads of families were more likely than white female heads to have children to support—two-thirds of the black female heads compared to one-half of the whites (in 1973). Both blacks and whites have experienced increases in these proportions since the 1960's. Among female heads with children, a larger proportion of blacks than whites had 2 or more children to support (table 54).

As the proportion of black female heads has increased, especially those with children, the percentage of black children living with both a mother and father has decreased. The proportion living with both parents dropped sharply in the three-year period, 1970 to 1973—from 64 to 56 percent; the proportion of comparable white children showed only a slight decline—from 91 to 89 percent. This pattern was observed also in the previous 5-year span (table 55).

Table 52. Percent Distribution of Families by Type: 1965 and 1970 to 1974

Year and race	Total all families (thousands)	Percent of all families			
		Total	Husband-wife	Other male head	Female head[1]
NEGRO					
1965[2]	4,752	100.0	73.1	3.2	23.7
1970	4,774	100.0	68.1	3.7	28.3
1971	4,928	100.0	65.6	3.8	30.6
1972[3]	5,157	100.0	63.8	4.4	31.8
1973[3]	5,265	100.0	61.4	4.0	34.6
1974[3]	5,440	100.0	61.8	4.2	34.0
WHITE					
1965	43,081	100.0	88.6	2.4	9.0
1970	46,022	100.0	88.7	2.3	9.1
1971	46,535	100.0	88.3	2.3	9.4
1972[3]	47,641	100.0	88.2	2.3	9.4
1973[3]	48,477	100.0	87.8	2.5	9.6
1974[3]	48,919	100.0	87.7	2.4	9.9

Note: Most of the tables in this section show data on families for the year 1973. Figures on families from the March 1974 Current Population Survey, which recently became available, have been included in this table in this section.

A family consists of two or more persons living together and related by blood, marriage, or adoption.

[1]Female heads of families include widowed and single women, women whose husbands are in the Armed Service or otherwise away from home involuntarily, as well as those seperated from their husbands through divorce or marital discord.

[2]Includes persons of "other races."

[3]Based on 1970 census population controls. See Definitions and Explanations section for more details.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 53. Marital Status of Female Heads of Families: 1973

Marital status	Heads, all ages		Heads under 45 years old		Heads over 45 years old	
	Negro	White	Negro	White	Negro	White
Total, female heads						
Thousands	1,822	4,672	1,163	2,062	659	2,610
Percent	100	100	100	100	100	100
With disrupted marriage	49	45	57	72	34	23
Separated	33	15	39	25	22	6
Divorced	16	30	18	47	12	17
Other	51	55	43	28	66	77
Single (never married)	20	10	27	10	6	10
Widowed	28	41	11	11	59	65
Husband temporarily absent	4	4	5	7	2	2
Armed Forces	1	1	1	3	-	-
Other reasons	3	3	3	5	2	2

Note: Categories refer to marital status at time of enumeration.

- Rounds to zero.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 54. Families With Female Heads by Number of Own Children Under 18 Years Old: 1960, 1967, and 1973

Subject	1960	1967	1973
NEGRO			
Total, female heads.....thousands..	890	1,138	1,822
Percent.....	100	100	100
With no own children under 18.....	44	36	31
With own children under 18.....	56	64	69
With own children under 18.....thousands..	495	732	1,255
Percent.....	100	100	100
1 own child under 18.....	30	25	32
2 own children under 18.....	23	26	25
3 or more own children under 18.....	47	49	42
WHITE			
Total, female heads.....thousands..	3,306	4,032	4,672
Percent.....	100	100	100
With no own children under 18.....	58	55	47
With own children under 18.....	42	45	53
With own children under 18.....thousands..	1,396	1,825	2,470
Percent.....	100	100	100
1 own child under 18.....	45	40	42
2 own children under 18.....	28	29	30
3 or more own children under 18.....	26	31	27

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 55. Total Own Children and Percent of Children Living With Both Parents: 1965 to 1973

(Numbers in thousands)

Year	Total, own children		Percent living with both parents	
	Black	White	Black	White
1965	[1]8,922	58,825	[1]71	91
1966	(NA)	58,272	70	91
1967	8,642	58,722	68	92
1968	8,752	58,765	65	92
1969	8,870	58,589	65	92
1970	8,944	58,244	64	91
1971	8,876	58,217	61	90
1972	8,584	57,252	61	89
1973	8,676	56,138	56	89

Note: Universe is own unmarried children under 18 years old living in families. "Own" child is a single (never married) son, daughter, stepchild, or adopted child of a married couple or of a family head or subfamily head.

NA Not available.

[1]Includes persons of "other races."

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

FAMILY

Other Characteristics

In 1970, among all married couples with at least one black spouse, the proportion where both spouses were black was 98.1 percent. Only a small number, 65,000, were black-white marriages. Among the black-white combinations, a black husband and white wife was a more frequent occurrence than a white husband and a black wife (table 56).

Most black children live with black parents and most white children live with white parents. Of the 6.3 million black children living with both parents in 1970, only 68,000, or 1.1 percent, were in families where only one parent was black. In about two-thirds of these cases, the mother was white and the father black.

A relatively small number, 16,000, of the black children living with both parents were living with nonblack parents, most of whom were white. These children are probably adopted or foster children, or the offspring from a previous marriage (table 57).

Table 56. Race of Husband and Wife, 1960 and 1970, and Decade of Marriage: 1970

Subject	Total	Husband and wife both black	Husband-wife different race		
			Total	Husband black, wife white	Husband white, wife black
1970					
Total..thousands.....	3,409	3,344	65	41	24
Percent.....	100.0	98.1	1.9	1.2	0.7
Decade of marriage, both spouses married once:					
1960 to 1970..thousands....	925	901	24	16	7
Percent.....	100.0	97.4	2.6	1.7	0.8
1950 to 1959..thousands....	615	607	8	5	3
Percent.....	100.0	98.7	1.3	0.8	0.5
1960					
Total..thousands.....	3,085	3,033	51	25	26
Percent.....	100.0	98.3	1.7	0.8	0.8

Note: Universe is married couples where both spouses are black and also black-white married couples.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 57. Race of Child by Race of Parents and by Whether Living With One or Both Parents: 1970

(Numbers in thousands)

Subject	Race of children		Percent distribution	
	Black	White	Black	White
All children of head.....	9,766	67,414	(X)	(X)
Living with both parents.....	6,295	59,450	100.0	100.0
Race same as mother and father.....	6,212	59,168	98.7	99.5
Race same as one parent only.....	68	276	1.1	0.5
Father black, mother white.....	42	14	0.7	-
Father white, mother black.....	11	12	0.2	-
Other combinations.....	15	249	0.2	0.4
Race different from either parent[1]...	16	19	0.3	-
Both parents black.....	(X)	7	(X)	-
Both parents white.....	15	(X)	0.2	(X)
Living with mother only.....	3,121	6,434	100.0	100.0
Mother same race as child.....	3,103	6,411	99.4	99.7
Mother different race from child.....	18	22	0.6	0.3
Living with father only.....	350	1,530	100.0	100.0
Father same race as child.....	349	1,527	99.5	99.8
Father different race from child.....	2	3	0.5	0.2

Note: Universe is all sons and daughters, regardless of age, living in households where at least one parent is the head.

- Rounds to zero.
X Not applicable.

[1]Includes other combinations not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

FERTILITY

The total fertility rates for women of all races began to decline sharply during the early 1960's and continued to 1973. Between 1960 and 1970 (latest data available for racial groups) the total fertility rates declined at about the same rate for both Negro and other races and white women. However, the total fertility rate of 3.10 children per black woman was still substantially higher than that of 2.34 for white women in 1970 (table 58).

The trend toward lower fertility levels for black women is reflected also in the figures on children ever born, birth expectations, and timing of births. Black women born in the more recent decade (1940's) in contrast to those born in the earlier decade (1930's) have delayed the birth of their first child to an older age. Approximately 63 percent of the black women born in 1940 to 1949 (age 22 to 31 at the time of the June 1971 survey) will have borne their first child by age 25. This compares with the higher 73 percent for the 1930 to 1939 birth cohort women (32 to 41 in 1971), who started their childbearing years during the high fertility years of the late 1940's and early 1950's.

The fertility levels of black women are strongly affected by their educational attainment. Regardless of the birth cohort, black women with at least a high school education have their first child at an older age than those with lesser education (table 59).

The average number of children ever born has declined markedly among black women under 35 years. For example, the average for black women age 25 to 29 years old in 1973 was 1.7, compared with 2.6 for black women of the comparable age group in 1965, a drop of 34 percent. At the other end of the childbearing span (35 and over), the average number of children born to black women remained stable or increased between 1965 and 1973. For example, among black women 35 to 39 years old, the average was 3.5 in both 1965 and 1973 (table 60).

Black women expect fewer children now. From 1967 to 1973, the average number of total births expected by black wives 18 to 39 years old declined from 3.7 to 3.0 percent. For whites in the comparable age group, the decline was from 3.1 to 2.6.

Among the youngest wives (18 to 24 years old in 1973) the birth expectations of black women now closely resemble those of white women (2.3 children per woman). Since the young black women already have had more births to date than the white women, they may not be successful in having the number of children they expect (table 61).

Illegitimacy appears to have risen among black women. For women first married in 1965 to 1969, about 32 percent reported that they had a child before marriage. For persons first married in the decade 1940 to 1949, the proportion was 19 percent. The increase in illegitimacy is substantiated by vital statistics data (table 62).

Table 58. Total Fertility Rates: 1960 to 1973

Year	All races	Negro and other races	Negro	White
1960	3.65	4.52	(NA)	3.53
1961	3.63	4.53	(NA)	3.50
1962	3.47	[1]4.40	(NA)	[1]3.35
1963	3.33	[1]4.27	(NA)	[1]3.20
1964	3.21	4.15	(NA)	3.07
1965	2.93	3.89	(NA)	2.79
1966	2.74	3.61	3.58	2.61
1967	2.57	3.39	3.35	2.45
1968	2.48	3.20	3.13	2.37
1969	2.47	3.15	3.07	2.36
1970	2.48	3.07	3.10	2.34
1971	2.28	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1972	2.03	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1973	1.90	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)

Note: A total fertility rate is defined as the average number of births that a synthetic cohort of women would have in its lifetime if, at each year of age, the women experienced the birth rates occurring in the specified calendar year.

Data for all races for 1971-73 are Bureau of Census estimates.

NA Not available.

[1]Excludes data for residents of New Jersey.

Source: U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 59. Cumulated Proportion of Black Women Having First Birth, by Age, Year of Birth, and Educational Level of Women: June 1971

(Births cumulated to successive ages)

Subject	Women born in--		
	1920 to 1929	1930 to 1939	1940 to 1949
ALL EDUCATIONAL LEVELS			
Total.....thousands..	1,263	1,243	1,726
Proportion of women who have borne first child by age:			
20.....	40.1	47.7	40.7
23.....	55.4	65.0	58.1
25.....	62.2	73.0	62.7
30.....	71.9	80.4	66.7
NOT A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE			
Total.....thousands..	791	643	621
Proportion of women who have borne first child by age:			
20.....	48.5	62.2	59.4
23.....	62.3	76.2	69.2
25.....	67.1	79.0	69.9
30.....	75.6	83.4	71.2
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE[1]			
Total.....thousands..	472	600	1,105
Proportion of women who have borne first child by age:			
20.....	25.6	32.2	30.0
23.....	43.4	53.2	51.9
25.....	53.8	67.0	58.5
30.....	65.5	77.3	68.7

[1]Includes persons who completed four years of high school or one year or more of college.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 60. Children Ever Born, per Woman by Age and Marital Status: 1965, 1970, and 1973

Marital status and age of women	Black			White		
	1965	1970	1973	1965	1970	1973
TOTAL WOMEN[1]						
Total, 15 to 44 years....	2.1	2.0	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.5
15 to 19 years.....	0.2	0.1	-	-	-	-
20 to 24 years.....	1.2	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.6
25 to 29 years.....	2.6	2.0	1.7	2.1	1.7	1.5
30 to 34 years.....	3.4	3.0	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.3
35 to 39 years.....	3.5	3.5	3.5	2.8	2.9	2.9
40 to 44 years.....	3.1	3.5	3.4	2.7	2.9	3.0
WOMEN EVER MARRIED						
Total, 15 to 44 years....	3.1	3.0	2.8	2.4	2.3	2.2
15 to 19 years.....	(B)	1.0	0.9	0.6	0.6	0.5
20 to 24 years.....	1.8	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.0	0.9
25 to 29 years.....	3.0	2.5	2.3	2.3	1.9	1.7
30 to 34 years.....	3.9	3.4	3.1	2.8	2.7	2.5
35 to 39 years.....	3.8	3.8	3.7	2.9	3.1	3.1
40 to 44 years.....	3.4	3.8	3.7	2.8	3.0	3.1

Note: Data for 1965 and 1973 are from Current Population Survey for month of June; 1970 data from 1970 census.

- Rounds to zero. B Base too small for rate to be shown.

[1] Includes single women.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 61. Selected Data on Birth Expectations for Reporting Wives, 18 to 39 Years Old, by Age: 1967, 1970, and 1973

Subject	Total, 18 to 39 years	Age of wife			
		18 to 24	25 to 29	30 to 34	35 to 39
1967					
Total number of reporting wives:					
Black.....thousands..	1,280	342	307	309	321
White.....thousands..	14,440	3,798	3,420	3,390	3,831
Average number of births to date:					
Black	3.2	1.8	3.0	3.9	4.2
White	2.4	1.1	2.3	3.0	3.1
Average number of total births expected:					
Black	3.7	2.8	3.4	4.3	4.2
White	3.1	2.9	3.0	3.2	3.2
1970[1]					
Total number of reporting wives:					
Black.....thousands..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
White.....thousands..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average number of births to date:					
Black	(NA)	1.7	2.6	3.7	3.9
White	(NA)	1.0	2.1	2.8	3.2
Average number of total births expected:					
Black	(NA)	2.9	3.2	3.8	4.1
White	(NA)	2.6	2.7	3.0	3.2
1973					
Total number of reporting wives:					
Black.....thousands..	1,442	433	343	337	329
White.....thousands..	16,769	4,510	4,550	4,044	3,665
Average number of births to date:					
Black	2.5	1.4	2.2	3.1	3.9
White	2.0	0.8	1.7	2.6	3.1
Average number of total births expected:					
Black	3.0	2.3	2.8	3.3	3.9
White	2.6	2.3	2.4	2.8	3.2

NA Not available.

[1]Data are from a privately conducted in depth survey of fertility and related phenomena and thus may not be strictly comparable to birth expectations data collected in other years.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census and National Fertility Study.

Table 62. Cumulated Proportion of Black Women With First Child Born Before or Since First Marriage, by Year of First Marriage, for Black Women Who First Married in 1940 to 1969: June 1971

(Births cumulated to successive intervals since first marriage)

Year of first marriage	Proportion of black women with first child born--					
	Before mother's marriage	After marriage				
		6 months	9 months	18 months	36 months	60 months
1940 to 1949.....	19.0	27.3	33.7	65.9	73.3	76.4
1950 to 1959.....	25.8	38.8	47.2	72.0	80.8	85.7
1960 to 1964.....	32.2	47.6	56.7	77.2	87.2	89.1
1965 to 1969.....	31.5	53.0	60.5	75.9	82.4	86.0

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economics Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

VI WOMEN

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WOMEN

General and Social Characteristics

In April 1973, there were 12.2 million black females in the United States. These females comprised 11 percent of the total female population in the nation and 53 percent of all blacks. The number of black females has increased by an estimated 459 thousand during the last 3 years and by about 2.5 million since 1960 (table 63).

Most black and white women (14 years and over) have been married at some time; however, this proportion has been decreasing for black women. Among ever-married women, about one-half of blacks were married and living with their spouses in 1973. The 1973 proportion for blacks represents a substantial decline from the 1960 level. Corresponding to this decline, has been an increase in the percentages separated and divorced. Approximately three-fourths of the ever-married white women had a husband present in 1973 (table 64).

There has been a change in the percent single among women, particularly black women, under the age of 35. Since 1960, a higher proportion of women in this age range have remained single. For example, the percent single among black women under 35 years old increased by about 13 percentage points between 1960 and 1973 (table 65).

The younger black and white women are achieving higher educational levels. The younger women, 20 to 24 years old, both black and white are more likely to have some college education than their predecessors. For example, in 1973, the proportion of black women with some college was 25 percent for those 20 to 24 years old compared to 6 percent for women 65 years and over. Educational variations by age are also large for whites.

The proportion of black women with some college education is less than that for whites in all age groups (table 66).

Table 63. Percent Distribution of the Female Population, by Region: 1960, 1970, and 1973

Race and region	1960	1970	1973	
			Female population	Males per 100 females
BLACK				
United States.....thousands..	9,758	11,832	12,291	88.7
Percent.....	100	100	100	(X)
South.....	60	53	52	88.4
North and West.....	40	47	48	88.9
Northeast.....	16	20	19	85.3
North Central.....	18	20	20	92.7
West.....	6	7	8	88.1
WHITE				
United States.....thousands..	80,465	91,028	92,565	94.7
Percent.....	100	100	100	(X)
South.....	27	28	29	94.0
North and West.....	73	72	71	95.0
Northeast.....	26	25	25	93.0
North Central.....	30	29	28	97.2
West.....	16	17	18	94.4

X Not applicable.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 64. Marital Status of Women: 1960, 1965, 1970, and 1973

Marital status and race	1960	1965	1970	1973
BLACK				
Total, 14 years old and over.....thousands..	6,375	7,062	7,921	8,616
Percent.....	100	100	100	100
Single.....	22	23	28	30
Ever married.....	78	77	72	70
Ever married.....thousands..	4,989	5,441	5,704	6,024
Percent.....	100	100	100	100
Married, husband present.....	61	60	58	54
Married, husband temporarily absent.....	5	5	3	2
Separated.....	11	13	14	15
Widowed.....	18	17	19	20
Divorced.....	5	5	6	8
WHITE				
Total, 14 years old and over.....thousands..	58,087	63,050	68,512	71,226
Percent.....	100	100	100	100
Single.....	19	20	21	21
Ever married.....	81	80	79	79
Ever married.....thousands..	47,278	50,210	53,885	56,164
Percent.....	100	100	100	100
Married, husband present.....	78	77	77	77
Married, husband temporarily absent.....	2	2	2	1
Separated.....	2	2	2	2
Widowed.....	15	16	16	15
Divorced.....	3	4	4	5

Note: Categories "separated" and "divorced" refer to marital status at time of enumeration.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 65. Percent of Women Who Are Single, by Age: 1960 and 1973

Age	Black			White		
	1973	1960[1]	Change	1973	1960	Change
Total, 14 years and over	30.1	22.0	8.1	21.1	18.6	2.5
Under 35 years	54.1	41.2	12.9	42.8	37.1	5.7
35 years and over	5.9	6.1	-0.2	5.0	7.4	2.4
14 to 17 years	97.1	93.9	3.2	96.2	94.7	1.5
18 years	88.2	76.4	11.8	81.0	75.5	5.5
19 years	78.4	61.7	16.7	67.3	59.4	7.9
20 to 24 years	47.5	35.4	12.1	36.7	27.4	9.3
25 to 29 years	22.9	15.7	7.2	10.6	9.8	0.8
30 to 34 years	14.6	9.6	5.0	5.6	6.6	-1.0
35 to 39 years	8.6	7.6	1.0	3.9	5.9	-2.0
40 to 44 years	8.1	6.4	1.7	4.4	6.0	-1.6
45 to 54 years	5.9	6.0	-0.1	3.6	7.2	-3.6
55 to 64 years	4.7	6.0	-1.3	5.4	8.2	-2.8
65 years and over	3.6	4.4	-0.8	6.9	8.8	-1.9

[1]Includes persons of "other races."

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

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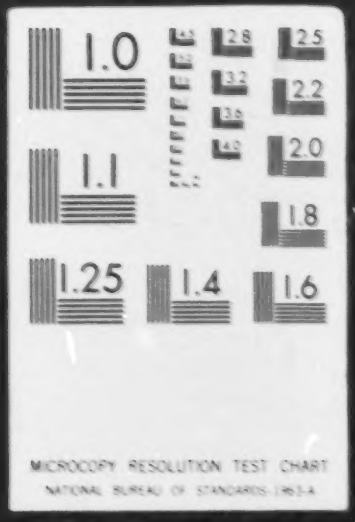

Table 66. Highest Grade of School Completed by Women 20 Years Old and Over, by Age: 1973

Age and race	Total (thousands)	Percent distribution by years of school completed				
		Total	Less than 4 years of high school	High school, 4 years	College	
					1 to 3 years	4 years or more
BLACK						
Total, 20 years and over	6,993	100	55	30	10	6
20 to 24 years	1,119	100	28	47	21	4
25 years and over	5,874	100	60	26	8	6
25 to 29 years	849	100	35	43	13	9
30 to 34 years	731	100	45	37	11	8
35 to 44 years	1,305	100	51	34	9	6
45 to 64 years	2,064	100	69	19	6	5
65 years and over	926	100	87	7	3	4
WHITE						
Total, 20 years and over	61,016	100	35	42	13	10
20 to 24 years	7,843	100	15	48	27	10
25 years and over	53,173	100	38	41	11	10
25 to 29 years	6,749	100	18	49	15	17
30 to 34 years	5,570	100	23	50	14	14
35 to 44 years	10,042	100	29	49	12	11
45 to 64 years	20,042	100	40	41	10	8
65 years and over	10,770	100	64	22	8	6

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

WOMEN

Economic Characteristics

Labor Force and Employment

Traditionally, the labor force participation rate for black women has been greater than that for white women. This situation still holds true. In 1973, about one-half of the women of Negro and other races (16 years old and over) were in the civilian labor force, compared to approximately 44 percent of the white women.

Differences in labor force participation between black and white women varies according to the marital status of the women. Women of Negro and other races who were married and living with their husbands or widowed were more likely than their white counterparts to be in the work force in 1973. On the other hand, labor force participation was greater among white women who were single and those who were married but the husband was absent. Similar proportions of divorced black and white women were in the labor market (table 67).

The presence of young children in the family affects the work status of black women to a much lesser extent than white women. Among the ever-married women (15 to 49 years old), about 49 percent of the black mothers with children under 5 were members of the labor market in 1973, 17 percentage points higher than the comparable proportion of white mothers. Among the women without preschool age children, about 66 percent of black as compared to 58 percent of the comparable group of white women were in the labor force–a difference of 8 percentage points (table 68).

Unemployment is more prevalent among black women than white women. In 1973, 10 percent of women of Negro and other races were unemployed as compared to 5 percent of white women. Negro and other races women who were single registered the highest unemployment rates, reflecting the extremely high unemployment rates found among teenage black girls (table 67).

Occupation

Since 1965, the occupational distribution of employed black women has changed substantially, whereas that for the white women has remained almost stable. Employed black women have made gains in moving from lower-paid jobs into the higher-paid occupations. The proportion of Negro and other races women employed in white-collar jobs increased from 24 percent in 1965 to 42 percent in 1973. The proportion working in service jobs was reduced from 55 to 38 percent (table 69).

Despite this occupational upgrading, black women were still underrepresented in many of the higher-paying jobs. For example, according to the 1970 census black women comprised about 12 percent of all employed women; however, they represented only 8 percent of all women working in the professional fields, 4 percent of the managers and administrators, and 7 percent of the women who were employed as clerical and kindred workers in 1970. In contrast, 18 percent of the women farm workers, 17 percent of the women service workers (excluding private household), and 53 percent of the women private household workers were black women (table 70).

Within the major occupation groups, both black and white women were concentrated in occupations which traditionally have employed large numbers of women. Women of both racial groups in professional and technical occupations were highly concentrated in elementary and secondary teaching jobs and health jobs such as registered nurses, dietitions, and therapists. Most women sales workers were sales clerks in retail trade, and the clerical workers were primarily secretaries, stenographers, and typists. There was a dearth of women, particularly blacks, employed in occupations such as engineers, physicians, dentists and related practitioners, teachers at the college and university level, and bank officers and financial managers (table 70).

Occupation--Continued

In November 1973, black women represented 22 percent of all full-time women working as Federal employees. The proportion of jobs held by black women varied widely by the specific type of pay system. Under the General Schedule, 19 percent of all women employed were black; whereas under Wage Systems, Regular Leader, 55 percent of the women were black. Black women were generally underrepresented among women in the higher level jobs under each pay system (table 71).

Income

Since the late 60's, the differences in income between black and white women who were year-round full-time workers has narrowed significantly. The median income ratio of black to white women has risen from 74 percent in 1967 to 86 percent in 1972. During this period, the average income for black women rose about 60 percent to its 1972 level of $5,280; income for white women grew at a slower rate—40 percent.

Disparity in income between black and white women varied greatly by region. In 1972, the income ratio for the year-round full-time workers ranged from a low of 78 percent in the South to 100 percent in the West.

Black women have also been making income gains relative to black men, but the income differentials between white women and men has remained stable since 1967 (table 72).

Table 67. Employment Status of Women by Marital Status: March 1973

(Numbers in thousands)

Marital status and race	Civilian population	Labor force		Employed	Unemployed	
		Number	Percent of population		Number	Percent of labor force
NEGRO AND OTHER RACES						
Total	9,066	4,427	48.8	3,978	449	10.1
Married, husband present	3,877	2,093	54.0	1,952	141	6.7
Married, husband absent	1,122	546	48.7	477	69	12.6
Widowed	1,292	369	28.6	356	13	3.5
Divorced	516	366	70.9	337	29	7.9
Single	2,259	1,053	46.6	856	197	18.7
WHITE						
Total	67,784	29,477	43.5	27,947	1,530	5.2
Married, husband present	43,062	17,728	41.2	16,956	772	4.4
Married, husband absent	1,780	976	54.8	890	86	8.8
Widowed	8,562	2,115	24.7	2,038	77	3.6
Divorced	2,760	1,972	71.5	1,879	93	4.7
Single	11,620	6,686	57.5	6,184	502	7.5

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 68. Labor Force Status of Women 15 to 49 Years Old, by Age of Women and Presence of Young Children: 1973

Age and race	Percent in labor force			
	Single women	Women ever married		
		Total	With own children under 5 years old	Without own children under 5 years old
BLACK				
15 to 49 years	40	60	49	66
15 to 24 years	34	54	49	61
25 to 29 years	66	61	51	73
30 to 49 years	61	61	48	65
WHITE				
15 to 49 years	54	49	32	58
15 to 24 years	49	51	34	72
25 to 29 years	87	46	33	67
30 to 49 years	79	50	28	55

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 69. Employed Women, by Occupation: 1965, 1970, and 1973

(Annual averages)

Occupation	1965		1970		1973	
	Black	White	Black	White	Black	White
Total number employed.....thousands..	3,147	21,601	3,642	26,025	3,999	28,448
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White-collar workers.....	23.9	61.8	36.0	63.9	41.5	63.3
Professional and technical workers.....	8.5	13.9	10.8	15.0	12.0	14.9
Managers and administrators, except farm.	1.6	4.9	1.9	4.8	2.6	5.2
Sales workers.....	2.0	8.3	2.5	7.7	2.5	7.5
Clerical workers.....	11.8	34.7	20.8	36.4	24.4	35.7
Blue-collar workers.....	15.9	16.8	19.2	15.7	19.1	15.7
Craft and kindred workers.....	0.7	1.1	0.8	1.2	1.1	1.5
Operatives, except transport.....	14.5	15.3	17.6	14.1	16.4	12.9
Transport equipment operatives.....					0.5	0.5
Nonfarm laborers.....	0.7	0.4	0.7	0.4	1.2	0.9
Service workers.....	54.8	18.6	43.1	18.7	38.1	19.3
Private household.....	30.1	4.5	17.5	3.4	12.9	2.9
Other.....	24.7	14.1	25.6	15.3	25.2	16.4
Farm workers.....	5.3	2.7	1.7	1.8	1.3	1.6

Note: Beginning with 1971, occupational employment data are not strictly comparable with statistics for 1970 and earlier years as a result of changes in the occupational classification system for the 1970 Census of Population that were introduced in January 1971, and the addition of a question to the CPS in December 1971 relating to major activities and duties. For an explanation of these changes, see Bureau of the Census Technical Paper No. 26 and Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings, Volume 17, No. 8 and Volume 18, No. 8.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 70. Occupation of Employed Women: 1970

Detailed occupation	Black women			White women	
	Number	Percent distribution	Percent of all women	Number	Percent distribution
Total employed	3,333,659	100.0	11.5	25,375,301	100.0
Professional, technical and kindred workers	378,588	11.4	8.3	4,132,696	16.3
Computer specialists	2,730	0.1	5.4	46,476	0.2
Engineers	719	-	3.6	19,037	0.1
Lawyers and judges	394	-	3.0	12,588	-
Librarians, archivists, and curators	6,646	0.2	6.6	92,835	0.4
Life and physical scientists	1,381	-	5.1	24,220	0.1
Personnel and labor relations workers	6,862	0.2	7.5	83,479	0.3
Physicians, dentists, and related practitioners	1,711	0.1	3.9	39,143	0.2
Registered nurses, dietitians, and therapists	71,487	2.1	8.0	811,626	3.2
Health technologists and technicians	15,145	0.5	8.3	162,917	0.6
Religious workers	1,288	-	5.0	24,176	0.1
Social and recreation workers	25,861	0.8	16.4	129,490	0.5
Teachers, college and university	7,535	0.2	5.4	129,242	0.5
Teachers, except college and university	173,502	5.2	9.0	1,746,208	6.9
Engineering and science technicians	4,700	0.1	5.3	82,089	0.3
Writers, artists, and entertainers	6,593	0.2	2.9	219,388	0.9
Managers and administrators, except farm	46,625	1.4	4.4	1,002,272	3.9
Bank officers and financial managers	1,426	-	2.6	52,427	0.2
Buyers, wholesale and retail trade	1,291	-	2.5	50,699	0.2
Health administrators	2,030	0.1	5.4	35,290	0.1
Restaurant, cafeteria, and bar managers	7,564	0.2	6.9	99,862	0.4
Sales managers and department heads	1,701	0.1	2.8	57,662	0.2
School administrators	5,161	0.2	9.4	49,307	0.2
Sales workers	85,081	2.6	4.0	2,038,977	8.0
Sales clerks, retail trade	55,969	1.7	3.8	1,395,734	5.5
Clerical and kindred workers	691,097	20.7	6.8	9,346,947	36.8
Bank tellers and cashiers	51,322	1.5	5.7	846,266	3.3
Bookkeepers	33,445	1.0	2.6	1,228,237	4.8
Secretaries, stenographers and typists	180,887	5.4	4.9	3,467,719	13.7
Statistical clerks	12,933	0.4	8.2	143,341	0.6
Craft and kindred workers	48,140	1.4	9.3	463,670	1.8
Operatives, except transport	534,154	16.0	13.2	3,442,495	13.6
Clothing, ironers, and pressers	56,042	1.7	41.0	78,089	0.3
Dressmakers, except factory	8,300	0.2	9.0	81,189	0.3
Metalworking operatives, except precision machines	16,450	0.5	10.8	134,392	0.5
Sewers and stitchers	77,604	2.3	9.5	718,636	2.8
Textile operatives	29,154	0.9	12.5	202,744	0.8
Transport equipment operatives	12,937	0.4	9.7	120,008	0.5
Laborers, except farm	48,372	1.5	17.3	228,513	0.9
Farm workers	42,272	1.3	18.1	184,828	0.7

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 70. Occupation of Employed Women: 1970—Continued

Detailed occupation	Black women			White women	
	Number	Percent distribution	Percent of all women	Number	Percent distribution
Service workers, except private household	850,455	25.5	17.7	3,892,672	15.3
Cleaning service workers	206,157	6.2	34.6	380,485	1.5
Food service workers	229,123	6.9	12.0	1,656,314	6.5
Cooks, except private household	110,477	3.3	21.3	404,288	1.6
Waiters, food counter and fountain workers	57,202	1.7	6.2	955,360	3.8
Health service workers	225,918	6.8	21.6	808,319	3.2
Health aides (incl. nursing), orderlies, and attendants	172,346	5.2	24.2	531,975	2.1
Practical nurses	49,063	1.5	21.6	175,261	0.7
Personal service workers	82,559	2.5	10.6	685,007	2.7
Child care workers, except private household	17,687	0.5	14.9	100,100	0.4
Hairdressers and cosmetologists	33,424	1.0	7.7	395,645	1.6
Housekeepers, except private household	9,578	0.3	12.8	64,076	0.3
Protective service workers	7,869	0.2	13.3	51,075	0.2
Private household workers	595,938	17.9	52.6	522,223	2.1

- Rounds to zero.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 71. Federal Employee Pay System and Grade Grouping, for Women: November 1973

Pay system and grade grouping	All women	Black women		
		Number	Percent of all women	Percent of all blacks
Total, all pay plans[1]	803,679	174,683	21.7	41.9
General Schedule and similar	571,147	105,494	18.5	63.4
GS-1 to 4	263,363	52,694	20.0	73.8
GS-5 to 8	234,597	42,884	18.3	66.5
GS-9 to 11	55,340	7,975	14.4	40.1
GS-12 to 15	17,728	1,928	10.9	18.3
GS-16 to 18	119	13	10.9	9.6
Wage Systems, total[2]	42,425	20,094	47.4	20.1
Regular Nonsupervisory	36,341	16,577	45.6	19.9
WG-1 to 6	30,909	15,595	50.5	28.3
WG-7 to 9	4,223	842	19.9	4.7
WG-10 to 12	1,202	140	11.6	1.4
WG-13 to 15	7	-	-	-
Regular Leader	770	421	54.7	15.7
WL-1 to 6	695	410	59.0	21.3
WL-7 to 9	70	10	14.3	1.9
WL-10 to 12	5	1	20.0	0.4
WL-13 to 15	-	-	-	-
Regular Supervisory	1,136	611	53.8	12.1
WS-1 to 6	935	547	58.5	16.8
WS-7 to 12	201	64	31.8	3.7
WS-13 to 15	-	-	-	-
WS-16 to 19	-	-	-	-
Other wage systems	4,178	2,485	59.5	27.6
Postal Field Service	139,161	42,606	30.6	30.6
PFS-1 to 5[3]	128,816	39,765	30.9	32.3
PFS-6 to 9	5,170	2,294	44.4	19.9
PFS-10 to 16	4,463	489	11.0	14.9
PFS-17 to 19	504	42	8.3	4.9
PFS-20 to 29[4]	208	16	7.7	3.4
Total other pay systems	50,946	6,489	12.7	61.2

Note: These data were extracted from the Central Personnel Data File (CPDF) as of November 30, 1973. Totals will vary slightly from the survey (Minority Group Employment in the Federal Government, November 1973) data because of different agency coverage and the fact that only records with complete data pertinent to the study were used (i.e., minority group designator, grade, pay plan, sex, agency and geographic location.)

-Rounds to zero.

[1]Includes other pay plans, not shown separately.

[2]In 1970-71 the majority of Federal employees under wage systems were converted to one of the Coordinated Federal Wage Systems (CFWS)--Regular Nonsupervisory, Regular Leader, and Regular Supervisory. The remaining employees were in "other wage systems," which will eventually be converted to the CFWS.

[3]Includes 4th class postmasters and rural carriers.

[4]In 1967 there were 20 PFS grades.

Source: U.S. Civil Service Commission.

Table 72. Median Income of Year-Round Full-Time Workers, by Sex, Region, and Age: 1967 to 1972

(In current dollars)

Year and area	Women		Median income ratio		
	Black	White	Black women to white women	Black women to black men	White women to white men
1967[1]	$3,248	$4,360	0.74	0.67	0.58
1968	3,561	4,687	0.76	0.66	0.58
1969	4,126	5,182	0.80	0.70	0.58
1970	4,536	5,536	0.82	0.70	0.59
1971[2]	5,092	5,767	0.88	0.75	0.58
1972[2]					
Area					
United States	5,280	6,172	0.86	0.72	0.57
South	4,405	5,631	0.78	0.73	0.58
North and West	6,178	6,442	0.96	0.72	0.57
Northeast	6,063	6,440	0.94	0.78	0.57
North Central	5,949	6,190	0.96	0.65	0.56
West	6,889	6,873	1.00	0.76	0.58

Note: A year-round full-time worker is one who worked primarily at full-time civilian jobs (35 hours or more per week) for 50 weeks or more during the preceding calendar year.

[1]Revised, based on processing corrections.

[2]Based on 1970 census population controls; therefore, not strictly comparable to data for earlier years. See Definitions and Explanations section for more details.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

WOMEN

Voting and Elected Officials

Overall, there was less of a tendency for black women to vote than white women in the last presidential election. In 1972, the proportions of black and white women of voting age who reported that they voted were 52 and 63 percent, respectively.

In 1972, black and white women living in the North and West were more likely to vote than those in the South.

Black women have participated in voting to the same extent as black men. The voter turnout rate has been slightly lower for white women than for white men (table 73).

Since 1969, the number of black women holding public office has more than doubled–from 131 to 337. Approximately 13 percent of all elected black officials were women in 1973, representing a small increase over the level 4 years earlier.

Black women are concentrated in elected positions related to education–about 45 percent were in this category in 1973. Another 30 percent were in office at the municipal level. Few black women have been elected mayors, State legislators, or U.S. Congresswomen. However, some significant breakthroughs occurred in the 1970's. For the first time, black women–three in fact–were elected as mayors; three Congresswomen joined the one Congresswoman elected in 1968 and seven women won State legislature seats (table 74).

Table 73. Reported Voter Participation of Persons of Voting Age, by Sex and Region: 1964, 1968, and 1972

(Numbers in thousands)

Subject	Black			White		
	1964[1]	1968	1972	1964	1968	1972
WOMEN						
Total of voting age:						
United States	6,114	6,031	7,459	52,368	55,480	64,139
South	3,196	3,255	3,780	14,196	15,451	18,750
North and West	2,918	2,776	3,679	38,172	40,029	45,389
Percent who reported they voted:						
United States	57	57	52	68	67	63
South	43	51	48	55	58	55
North and West	73	64	57	73	71	67
MEN						
Total of voting age	5,138	4,905	6,034	46,985	49,041	57,104
Percent who reported they voted	58	58	52	73	71	66

[1]Includes person of "other races."

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 74. Black Elected Officials, Total and Women: 1969 and 1973

Subject	March 1969		March 1973	
	Total[1]	Women	Total[1]	Women
Total	1,125	131	2,625	337
Percent women of total	(X)	11.6	(X)	12.8
U.S. Congress	10	1	16	4
State legislatures	172	16	238	29
Mayors	29	-	83	3
Other[2]	914	114	2,288	301
State	(NA)	-	2	-
County	(NA)	7	211	17
Municipal	(NA)	38	974	102
Law enforcement	(NA)	16	334	32
Education	(NA)	53	767	150
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
U.S. Congress	0.9	0.8	0.6	1.2
State legislatures	15.3	12.2	9.1	8.6
Mayors	2.6	-	3.2	0.9
Other[2]	81.2	87.0	87.2	89.3
State	(NA)	-	0.1	-
County	(NA)	5.3	8.0	5.0
Municipal	(NA)	29.0	37.1	30.3
Law enforcement	(NA)	12.2	12.7	9.5
Education	(NA)	40.5	29.2	44.5

- Represents zero.
X Not applicable.
NA Not available.
[1]Includes men, not shown separately.
[2]Includes all black elected officials not included in first three categories.

Source: Joint Center for Political Studies.

VII LIVING CONDITIONS: HOUSING AND HEALTH

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LIVING CONDITIONS

Housing and Household Expenditures

In 1960 and 1970, for blacks, home ownership rates were higher in nonmetropolitan areas and suburbs (outside central cities) than in central cities.

During the decade, the rate of owner occupancy for black households increased in all areas. In the central cities, the home ownership rate was 35 percent in 1970; 31 percent in 1960. In the suburbs where the home ownership rate was highest in both 1960 and 1970, the rates were 52 and 54 percent, respectively. The greatest change in owner occupancy rate occurred in nonmetropolitan areas--45 percent in 1960 and 52 percent in 1970 (table 75).

In 1970, 23 percent of the 6.2 million black occupied housing units were classified as "substandard." This proportion was about three times the proportion of the white occupied units (7 percent).[1]

The 1970 estimates of "substandard" housing are the sum of two categories: (1) units included in the 1970 census which lacked complete private plumbing facilities, and (2) an estimate (through the use of statistical techniques) of the number of "dilapidated units" with complete private plumbing facilities.

Both black and white households registered a 50 percent reduction in the incidence of "substandard" units during the 1960-70 decade. The decline was the result of the decrease in the number of housing units which lacked complete plumbing (tables 76 and 77).

For the five-year period 1968 through 1972, black American households reported spending an average of $2,654 on cars and selected household durables, about 59 percent of the average expenditure of $4,495 reported by white households. The largest outlays reported were for cars, the costliest consumer durable covered in this Survey of Consumer Buying Expectations; black households spent an average of $1,646 and white households spent an average of $3,153 on the purchase of new and used cars. Black and white television sets was the only commodity for which the average expenditure for blacks ($60) was significantly higher than the average expenditure for whites ($41) (table 78). Average expenditures were computed by dividing aggregate expenditures by the total number of households (including households which did not purchase as well as those which did) and differences in average expenditures were due primarily to differences in the percentage of households making purchases.

In general, for most items in the survey, households headed by blacks reported a lower percentage making purchases than households headed by whites (table 79).

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[1]The term "substandard" is not a Census Bureau classification but was a category defined by the Federal Housing Agencies in the 1950's.

Table 75. Tenure of Occupied Housing Units, Inside and Outside Metropolitan Areas: 1960 and 1970

(Numbers in thousands. Metropolitan areas as defined in respective censuses)

Type of residence and year	Black[1]				White			
	Total	Owner occupied		Renter occupied	Total	Owner occupied		Renter occupied
		Number	Percent of total			Number	Percent of total	
1960								
United States	5,144	1,974	38	3,171	47,880	30,823	64	17,057
Metropolitan areas	3,486	1,224	35	2,262	30,514	18,812	62	11,702
Central cities	2,844	892	31	1,952	15,662	7,885	50	7,777
Outside central cities	643	333	52	310	14,852	10,927	74	3,925
Outside metropolitan areas	1,658	749	45	909	17,367	12,012	69	5,355
1970								
United States	6,180	2,568	42	3,612	56,529	36,979	65	19,551
Metropolitan areas	4,745	1,826	38	2,919	38,558	24,023	62	14,535
Central cities	3,838	1,336	35	2,502	17,188	8,831	51	8,357
Outside central cities	907	490	54	417	21,370	15,192	71	6,178
Outside metropolitan areas	1,435	742	52	693	17,971	12,955	72	5,016

[1]The 1960 data include "other races."

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 76. Housing Units by Availability of Plumbing Facilities and Estimates of Dilapidated Housing: 1960 and 1970

(Numbers in thousands)

Type of residence	Total occupied year-round housing units	Substandard		
		Total	Lacking some or all plumbing facilities	Dilapidated with all plumbing facilities
BLACK				
1960	4,791	2,162	2,007	155
1970	6,174	1,426	1,041	385
WHITE[1]				
1960	48,230	6,311	5,778	533
1970	57,272	3,874	2,731	1,142

Note: The 1970 data on "substandard" housing are estimates which are the sum of two categories: (1) units included in the 1970 census which lacked complete private plumbing facilities, and (2) an estimate (through the use of statistical techniques) of the number of dilapidated units with complete private plumbing facilities. For a more detailed explanation see the introduction to Plumbing Facilities and Estimates of Dilapidated Housing, HE(6).

In 1960 housing was reported as "dilapidated" if defects were so critical or widespread that the structure would require extensive repairs, rebuilding, razing, or was of inadequate original construction. For a more detailed explanation see the introduction to Plumbing Facilities and Estimates of Dilapidated Housing, HC(6).

[1]Includes persons of other races.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 77. Housing Units and Estimates of Substandard Housing, Inside and Outside Metropolitan Areas: 1960 and 1970

(Numbers in thousands)

Type of residence	Black			White[1]		
	Total occupied year-round housing units	Substandard		Total occupied year-round housing units	Substandard	
		Number	Percent of total		Number	Percent of total
1960						
United States	4,791	2,162	45	48,230	6,311	13
Metropolitan areas	3,368	1,027	31	32,499	2,548	8
In central cities	2,714	694	26	16,369	1,293	8
Outside central cities	654	333	51	16,131	1,255	8
Outside metropolitan areas	1,423	1,135	80	15,731	3,763	24
1970						
United States	6,174	1,426	23	57,272	3,874	7
Metropolitan areas	4,739	653	14	39,121	1,764	5
In central cities	3,833	438	11	17,562	862	5
Outside central cities	906	216	24	21,558	901	4
Outside metropolitan areas	1,436	773	54	18,151	2,110	12

Note: The 1970 data on "substandard" housing are estimates which are the sum of two categories: (1) units included in the 1970 census which lacked complete private plumbing facilities, and (2) an estimate (through the use of statistical techniques) of the number of dilapidated units with complete private plumbing facilities. For a more detailed explanation see the introduction to Plumbing Facilities and Estimates of Dilapidated Housing, HE(6).

[1]Includes persons of other races.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 78. Average Expenditure Per Household on Cars and Selected New Household Durables, for Five-Year Period: 1968 to 1972

Expenditure category	Total[1]	Black	White	Ratio: Black to white
AVERAGE EXPENDITURE PER HOUSEHOLD				
All items	$4,319	$2,654	$4,495	0.59
Cars, total (net)	3,010	1,646	3,153	0.52
New (net)	1,957	949	2,062	0.46
Used (net)	1,053	697	1,091	0.64
Selected appliances, total	407	271	421	0.64
Washing machines	67	52	69	0.75
Clothes dryers	39	14	42	0.33
Kitchen ranges	51	50	52	0.96
Refrigerators and freezers	108	88	110	0.80
Dishwashers	26	3	27	0.11
Room air conditioners	42	25	42	0.60
Other[2]	74	39	79	0.49
Home entertainment items, total	325	272	329	0.83
Black and white television sets	44	60	41	1.46
Color television sets	175	112	180	0.62
Radio, phonographs, and hi-fi equipment	106	100	108	0.93
Home furnishings, total	577	465	592	0.79
Furniture	410	383	415	0.92
Carpets, rugs, and other floor coverings	167	82	177	0.46

Note: Net expenditures are equal to gross expenditures less trade-in allowances.

[1]Includes persons of "other races" not shown separately.

[2]Vacuum cleaners, blenders, mixers, and sewing machines accounted for approximately one-third of all "other" durables reported purchased.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 79. Number of Cars and Selected Other Durables Purchased Per 100 Households, Five-Year Total: 1968 to 1972

Selected durables	Total	Black	White
Cars:			
New	62.5	27.4	66.1
Used	107.3	72.9	110.8
Selected appliances:			
Washing machines	28.5	22.6	29.2
Clothes dryers	20.1	7.0	21.7
Kitchen ranges	17.9	18.0	17.9
Refrigerators and freezers	32.7	29.1	33.1
Dishwashers	10.3	1.4	11.2
Room air conditioners	16.1	9.7	17.0
House entertainment items:			
Black and white television sets	29.6	36.8	28.5
Color television sets	36.4	23.7	37.6

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

LIVING CONDITIONS

Health

The life expectancy of persons of Negro and other races is lower than that of whites. Among Negro and other races, the average life expectancy at birth in 1971 was 69.3 years for females and 61.2 years for males. Corresponding figures for whites were 75.6 and 68.3 years.

Among females, the increase in the expectation of life at birth between the period 1959-61 and 1971 was greater for Negro and other races than for whites and, thus, differences between the two racial groups were reduced. On the other hand, differentials for males widened as the life expectancy showed little change among Negro and other races and increased for whites. The lack of improvement for Negro and other races males reflects the increases in age-specific death rates for most age groups observed during the period (table 80).

For both men and women, mortality rates were generally higher for Negro and other races than for whites. Between 1967 and 1972, age-specific death rates increased among Negro and other races men in the age groups between 15 and 64 years, whereas those for women of Negro and other races declined ffor most age groups (table 81).

The reduction in age-specific death rates for Negro and other races females reflects, in part, a decline in the death rate for major cardiovascular diseases—the leading cause of death. From 1965 to 1971, the rate for this disease dropped by about 17 percent. During the same period, among Negro and other races females, the death rate for malignant neoplasms increased slightly; that for accidents remained virtually unchanged. Suicide, a low-ranking cause of death among Negro and other races females, increased from 1965 to 1971 (3.0 to 3.9 per 100,000 population).

Among males of Negro and other races, major cardiovascular diseases, declined by about 11 percent over the period 1965 to 1971. Deaths from malignant neoplasms, accidents, and homicide were markedly high in 1971. The increases in the death rates for these diseases (particularly malignant neoplasms and homicides) over the previous 6 years, undoubtedly, contributed to the rise in age-specific death rates observed for most age groups in this male population (table 82).

A significant reduction in maternal mortality has been achieved for both blacks and whites. The rate for mothers of Negro and other races has been below 1.0 per 1,000 live births since 1965.

The decline in infant mortality during the last three decades has continued in the early years of the 1970's. The rates for Negro and other races continued to exceed those of whites; in 1972 the infant mortality rate was 29.0 for blacks, three-fourths higher than the 16.3 for whites (table 83).

Table 80. Remaining Life Expectancy at Selected Ages, 1959-61 and 1971

(Additional years of life expected)

Age and sex	1959-61[1]			1971		
	Negro and other races	White	Difference	Negro and other races	White	Difference
MALE						
0 years (at birth).....	61.5	67.6	-6.1	61.2	68.3	-7.1
1 year.....	63.5	68.3	-4.8	62.3	68.6	-6.3
15 years.....	50.4	54.9	-4.5	48.9	55.1	-6.2
25 years.....	41.4	45.7	-4.3	40.3	46.0	-5.7
40 years.....	28.7	31.7	-3.0	28.3	32.1	-3.8
65 years.....	12.8	13.0	-0.2	12.9	13.2	-0.3
FEMALE						
0 years (at birth).....	66.5	74.2	-7.7	69.3	75.6	-6.3
1 year.....	68.1	74.7	-6.6	70.2	75.8	-5.6
15 years.....	54.9	61.2	-6.3	56.7	62.2	-5.5
25 years.....	45.4	51.5	-6.1	47.3	52.5	-5.2
40 years.....	32.2	37.1	-4.9	34.0	38.2	-4.2
65 years.....	15.1	15.9	-0.8	16.1	17.0	-0.9

[1]3-year average.

Source: U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, National Center for Health Statistics.

Table 81. Death Rates for the Population by Age and Sex: 1967 and 1972

(Age specific death rates per 1,000 population in specified group)

Sex and age	Negro and other races		White	
	1967	1972[1]	1967	1972[1]
Male, all ages[2]	10.9	11.1	10.8	10.8
Under 1 year	38.8	30.5	22.4	17.8
1 to 4 years	1.5	1.2	0.8	0.8
5 to 14 years	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.5
15 to 24 years	2.5	3.0	1.6	1.7
25 to 34 years	4.8	5.4	1.7	1.8
35 to 44 years	8.5	9.2	3.4	3.2
45 to 54 years	16.1	16.7	9.0	8.7
55 to 64 years	30.9	31.8	22.2	21.3
65 to 74 years	55.0	54.0	48.9	48.1
75 to 84 years	79.7	89.9	97.6	101.7
85 years and over	114.3	119.0	215.1	184.2
Female, all ages[2]	7.9	7.6	8.0	8.2
Under 1 year	32.0	26.0	16.7	13.7
1 to 4 years	1.2	1.1	0.7	0.6
5 to 14 years	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.3
15 to 24 years	1.0	1.2	0.6	0.6
25 to 34 years	2.5	2.1	0.8	0.8
35 to 44 years	5.1	4.5	0.9	1.8
45 to 54 years	10.1	9.6	4.6	4.4
55 to 64 years	20.6	18.4	10.1	9.9
65 to 74 years	44.1	34.9	25.9	24.4
75 to 84 years	57.4	64.2	67.6	65.2
85 years and over	104.1	103.3	197.6	157.9

Note: The population base for the 1972 rates is consistent with provisional 1970 census results; therefore mortality rates for 1972 and 1967 are not strictly comparable.

[1]Data are provisional.

[2]Crude death rate, unadjusted for differences in age structure.

Source: U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, National Center for Health Statistics.

Table 82. Age Adjusted Death Rates for Selected Causes, by Sex: 1965 and 1971

(Based on age-specific death rates per 100,000 population in specified group. Computed by the direct method using as the standard population the age distribution of the total population of the United States as enumerated in 1940)

Cause of death	1965		1971	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
NEGRO AND OTHER RACES				
All causes	1,238.2	851.9	1,257.7	785.9
Major cardiovascular diseases	569.8	440.8	508.9	366.4
Diseases of heart	376.1	269.2	363.3	242.3
Hypertension	14.4	10.0	9.6	7.5
Cerebrovascular disease	134.2	125.5	115.9	101.7
Arteriosclerosis	13.6	11.3	8.4	7.5
Malignant neoplasms, inc. neoplasms of lymphatic and hemotopoietic tissues	173.3	125.2	198.7	129.7
Accidents	109.3	35.8	111.7	36.1
Influenza and pneumonia	52.3	32.3	43.0	22.8
Diabetes mellitus	18.1	28.6	21.7	32.4
Cirrhosis of liver	23.3	13.4	32.2	17.5
Suicide	9.7	3.0	10.4	3.9
Homicide	50.7	11.7	81.6	16.0
Certain causes of mortality in early infancy	39.2	30.6	26.7	21.1
WHITE				
All causes	909.3	531.7	874.9	496.2
Major cardiovascular diseases	479.3	272.9	435.7	239.0
Diseases of heart	368.6	185.9	343.0	168.2
Hypertension	4.2	3.1	2.5	1.7
Cerebrovascular disease	73.8	62.1	68.4	56.1
Arteriosclerosis	13.4	10.9	9.1	7.6
Malignant neoplasms, inc. neoplasms of lymphatic and hemotopoietic tissues	148.0	108.1	154.6	107.2
Accidents	75.4	27.7	72.9	27.0
Influenza and pneumonia	26.9	16.1	22.7	13.6
Diabetes mellitus	11.9	12.9	12.4	12.4
Cirrhosis of liver	15.6	7.6	18.9	8.8
Suicide	17.7	6.7	18.0	7.5
Homicide	4.8	1.7	7.9	2.3
Certain causes of mortality in early infancy	22.6	16.2	16.7	12.0

Source: U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, National Center for Health Statistics.

Table 83. Maternal and Infant Mortality Rates: 1940, 1950, 1960, and 1965 to 1972

(Per 1,000 live births)

Year	Negro and other races				White			
	Maternal	Infant			Maternal	Infant		
		Under 1 year	Under 28 days	28 days to 11 months		Under 1 year	Under 28 days	28 days to 11 months
1940.....	7.6	73.8	39.7	34.1	3.2	43.2	27.2	16.0
1950.....	2.2	44.5	27.5	16.9	0.6	26.8	19.4	7.4
1960.....	1.0	43.2	26.9	16.4	0.3	22.9	17.2	5.7
1965.....	0.8	40.3	25.4	14.9	0.2	21.5	16.1	5.4
1966.....	0.7	38.8	24.8	14.0	0.2	20.6	15.6	5.0
1967.....	0.7	35.9	23.8	12.1	0.2	19.7	15.0	4.7
1968.....	0.6	34.5	23.0	11.6	0.2	19.2	14.7	4.5
1969.....	0.6	32.9	22.5	10.4	0.2	18.4	14.2	4.2
1970.....	0.6	30.9	21.4	9.5	0.1	17.8	13.8	4.0
1971.....	0.5	28.5	19.6	8.9	0.1	17.1	13.0	4.0
1972.....	(NA)	29.0	20.6	8.5	(NA)	16.3	12.3	4.0

Note: Date for 1970, 1971, and 1972 are provisional.

NA Not available.

Source: U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, National Center for Health Statistics.

VIII VOTING AND ELECTED OFFICIALS

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VOTING

Among the voting-age population, the overall reported voter participation rate for blacks in the 1972 presidential election was about 6 percentage points lower than that in the preceding presidential election–52 percent in 1972 compared to 58 percent in 1968. The reported rate for whites (64 percent) was also lower in 1972 than in 1968.

The pattern of lower voter participation in 1972 than in 1968 generally prevailed among persons residing in all regions of the country.

For both blacks and whites, most of the people who reported that they were registered, reported that they voted in 1972; however, about 80 percent of registered blacks compared to 88 percent of the whites voted. These figures represent a decline from 1968 (table 84).

Of the 1.8 million blacks who were registered and did not vote in the last presidential election, approximately 1.5 million reported a reason for not voting. About 47 percent indicated that they were "unable to go to the polls;" the comparable proportion for white respondents was 39 percent. Reasons which fell in this category were "unable to go to polls for health reasons," "no transportation available," or "couldn't take time off from work." Reasons such as "out of town" or "away from home," which comprised another major category, were more frequently reported by whites than by blacks–14 and 8 percent, respectively. The categories "not interested" and "dislikes politics" accounted for about one-fourth of the blacks not voting (table 86).

The proportion of blacks "unable to go to polls" differed widely by region–52 percent in the South compared to 37 percent in the North and West. Figures for the white population did not show any variation by region (table 86).

A sizeable number, 3.9 million, of blacks of voting age were not registered in 1972. The proportion not registered was 29 percent, about the same as it was in 1968. These rates for blacks were slightly above those for whites in both of these presidential elections (table 85).

Among blacks, the nonregistration rate in 1972 was greater in the South than in the North and West.

Of the nonregistered blacks in the nation, the largest component, 45 percent, cited "not interested" as the reason for not registering in 1972. That they were "unable to register" was reported by 17 percent of the blacks. Those in the South had larger proportions in the "unable to register" category. This category includes reasons such as "physical disorder," "no transportation available," etc. (table 87).

Table 84. Reported Voter Participation and Registration of the Population of Voting Age, by Region: 1964, 1968, and 1972

(Numbers in thousands)

Subject	Black			White		
	1964	1968	1972	1964	1968	1972
Number who reported that they voted:						
United States	6,048	6,300	7,033	70,204	72,213	78,167
South	[1]2,576	3,094	3,324	15,813	17,853	20,201
North and West	[1]3,891	3,206	3,707	54,392	54,362	57,966
Percent of voting age population who reported that they voted:						
United States	58	58	52	71	69	64
South	[1]44	52	48	59	62	57
North and West	[1]72	65	57	75	72	68
Percent of registered population who reported they voted:						
United States	(NA)	87	80	(NA)	92	88
South	(NA)	84	75	(NA)	87	82
North and West	(NA)	90	85	(NA)	93	90

NA Not available.
[1]Includes persons of "other races."

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 85. Reported Voter Registration for Persons of Voting Age, by Region: 1968 and 1972

Subject	Total persons of voting age	Registered		Not registered	
		Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total
BLACK					
1968					
United States	10,935	7,238	66	3,217	29
South	5,991	3,690	62	2,041	34
North and West	4,944	3,548	72	1,176	24
1972					
United States	13,494	8,836	65	3,915	29
South	6,950	4,449	64	2,174	31
North and West	6,544	4,386	67	1,741	27
WHITE					
1968					
United States	104,521	78,835	75	23,199	22
South	28,834	20,416	71	7,815	27
North and West	75,687	58,419	77	15,384	20
1972					
United States	121,241	88,986	73	28,543	24
South	35,415	24,707	70	9,710	27
North and West	85,830	64,278	75	18,833	22

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 86. Reported Reason Not Voting of Persons Who Reported That They Were Registered but Did Not Vote, by Region: November 1972

(Numbers in thousands)

Area and race	Total reported registered but not voting[1]	Reported reason for not voting				
		Not interested	Dislikes politics	Unable to go to polls	Out of town or away from home	Other reasons[2]
BLACK						
United States	1,511	273	136	711	118	272
South	948	159	63	504	74	149
North and West	563	114	74	207	44	124
Percent Distribution						
United States	100	18	9	47	8	18
South	100	17	7	53	8	16
North and West	100	20	13	37	8	22
WHITE						
United States	9,560	1,612	1,369	3,684	1,336	1,559
South	4,040	673	487	1,585	599	696
North and West	5,520	939	881	2,099	737	863
Percent Distribution						
United States	100	17	14	39	14	16
South	100	17	12	39	15	17
North and West	100	17	16	38	13	16

[1]Includes only those who reported a reason for not voting; about 294,000 blacks and 1,260,000 whites did not know or report a reason.

[2]Includes a negligible number of persons who reported "machines not working or lines too long."

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 87. Reported Reason Not Registered to Vote of Persons of Voting Age, by Region: November 1972

(Numbers in thousands)

Area and race	Total reported not registered[1]	Reported reason not registered to vote				
		Unable to satisfy residence or citizenship requirement	Not interested	Dislikes politics	Unable to register	Other reasons
BLACK						
United States....	3,915	346	1,747	176	661	585
South.....	2,174	100	1,013	55	410	343
North and West.....	1,741	245	734	122	251	242
Percent Distribution						
United States....	100	9	45	4	17	15
South.....	100	5	47	3	19	16
North and West.....	100	14	42	7	14	14
WHITE						
United States....	28,543	4,712	12,328	2,310	3,511	4,326
South.....	9,710	1,363	4,699	586	1,217	1,390
North and West.....	18,833	3,349	7,629	1,724	2,295	2,936
Percent Distribution						
United States....	100	17	43	8	12	15
South.....	100	14	48	6	13	14
North and West.....	100	18	41	9	12	16

[1] Includes 401,000 black persons and 1,335,000 white persons in the United States classified as "Do not know if voted and not reported," not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

The number of black elected officials was 2,991 in March 1974, a 61 percent increase over the 1970 count. Although the advances have been striking, blacks still account for slightly over one-half of one percent of all elected officials in the country.[1]

In 1974 the majority (about 54 percent) of the black office holders were in the South. In 1970, the comparable proportion was 47 percent (table 88). The concentration of black elected officials in the South reflects the concentration of blacks in small Southern communities, vigorous registration and voter education projects, and the protection of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.[2]

Among the States, the largest number of black office holders were found in Michigan, Mississippi and New York, respectively, in 1974. There are 11 other States, over one-half of which are in the South, with more than 100 black office holders. In all States, most blacks held offices in the city government, law enforcement areas, and educational fields (table 89).

There were 108 black mayors in 1974, a sharp gain over the 81 in 1970. Blacks are now the mayors of 10 large metropolitan cities (population of 100,000 or more); 2 of these 10 mayors head cities of over 1 million. However, most of the black mayors govern small towns and communities. Sixty-six of the black mayors headed small communities with fewer than 5,000 residents, and of these, 40 were mayors of places with a total population of under 1,000. This situation was most pronounced in the South.

Generally, black mayors were holding office in towns and places which are predominantly black. In 61 of the 91 places for which racial data were available, blacks were at least 50 percent or more of the population. In 12 other places, governed by black mayors, blacks comprised a sizeable proportion (25 to 49 percent) of the population, and in 8 places, blacks accounted for only a very small minority of the population—less than 10 percent (table 90).

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[1] Joint Center for Political Studies, "News," April 22, 1974.

[2] Joint Center for Political Studies, "Black Women in Electoral Politics," August, 1973.

Table 88. Black Legislators and Blacks Elected to Other Public Office: 1964, 1968, 1970, 1972, and 1974

Subject	1964	1968	1970	1972	1974
Total	103	1,125	1,860	2,625	2,991
United States Senate:					
United States	-	1	1	1	1
South	-	-	-	-	-
House of Representives:					
United States	5	9	13	15	16
South	-	-	2	4	4
State Legislature:					
United States	94	172	198	238	239
South	16	53	70	90	90
Mayors:					
United States	(NA)	29	81	83	108
South	(NA)	17	47	49	63
Other:[1]					
United States	(NA)	914	1,567	2,288	2,627
South	(NA)	468	763	1,242	1,452

Note: Figures for the years 1964 and 1968 represent the total number of elected blacks holding office at that time, not just those elected in those years. The 1970, 1972, and 1974 figures represent the number of elected blacks holding office as of the end of March 1971, March 1973, and March 1974, respectively.

- Represents zero.
NA Not available.

[1]Includes all black elected officials not included in first four categories.

Source: Joint Center for Political Studies; Potomac Institute, et al (1964 data).

Table 89. Black Elected Officials by State: March 1974

State	1970 percent black	Black elected officials					
		Total	Congress	State	City	County	Other[1]
United States.....	11.1	2,991	17	239	1,360	242	1,133
Maine.....	0.3	5	-	1	3	-	1
New Hampshire.....	0.3	1	-	-	-	-	1
Vermont.....	0.2	2	-	-	1	-	1
Massachusetts.....	3.1	23	1	5	10	-	7
Rhode Island.....	2.7	7	-	1	2	-	4
Connecticut.....	6.0	50	-	6	31	-	13
New York.....	11.9	174	2	14	18	9	131
New Jersey.....	10.7	152	-	7	61	4	80
Pennsylvania.....	8.6	83	1	14	19	2	47
Ohio.....	9.1	139	1	11	85	3	39
Indiana.....	6.9	55	-	7	27	3	18
Illinois.....	12.8	152	2	19	73	3	55
Michigan.....	11.2	194	2	14	73	28	77
Wisconsin.....	2.9	14	-	3	6	3	2
Minnesota.....	0.9	8	-	2	1	-	5
Iowa.....	1.2	9	-	1	3	-	5
Missouri.....	10.3	93	1	15	47	4	26
North Dakota.....	0.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Dakota.....	0.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nebraska.....	2.7	2	-	1	-	-	1
Kansas.....	4.8	25	-	5	11	1	8
Delaware.....	14.3	8	-	3	5	-	-
Maryland.....	17.8	65	1	19	32	1	12
District of Columbia.....	71.1	8	1	-	-	-	7
Virginia.....	18.5	63	-	2	39	17	5
West Virginia.....	3.9	5	-	1	4	-	-
North Carolina.....	22.2	159	-	3	113	7	36
South Carolina.....	30.5	116	-	3	57	20	36
Georgia.....	25.9	137	1	16	72	9	39
Florida.....	15.3	73	-	3	65	1	4
Kentucky.....	7.2	59	-	3	43	2	11
Tennessee.....	15.8	87	-	9	27	29	22
Alabama.....	26.2	149	-	3	57	17	72
Mississippi.....	36.8	191	-	1	91	26	73
Arkansas.....	18.3	150	-	4	74	20	52
Louisiana.....	29.8	149	-	8	42	32	67
Oklahoma.....	6.7	66	-	4	40	-	22
Texas.....	12.5	124	1	8	59	-	56
Montana.....	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Idaho.....	0.3	1	-	-	1	-	-
Wyoming.....	0.8	1	-	-	1	-	-
Colorado.....	3.0	13	-	4	5	-	4
New Mexico.....	1.9	4	-	1	3	-	-
Arizona.....	3.0	10	-	2	2	-	6
Utah.....	0.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nevada.....	5.7	6	-	3	-	1	2
Washington.....	2.1	15	-	2	7	-	6
Oregon.....	1.3	6	-	1	1	-	4
California.....	7.0	132	3	8	48	-	73
Alaska.....	3.0	6	-	2	1	-	3
Hawaii.....	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-

Note: Figures shown represent the total number of elected blacks holding office as of the end of March 1974.

- Represents zero.

[1]Includes law enforcement and education.

Source: Joint Center for Political Studies and U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 90. Total Population Size and Proportion Black Population of Places With Black Mayors, by Region: March 1974

All places with black mayors	Total	South	North and West
SIZE OF PLACE			
Total	108	63	45
1,000,000 or more	2	-	2
250,000 to 999,999	3	1	2
100,000 to 249,999	5	1	4
25,000 to 99,999	15	4	11
5,000 to 24,999	17	5	12
2,500 to 4,999	12	6	6
1,000 to 2,499	14	13	1
Under 1,000	40	33	7
PERCENT BLACK OF TOTAL POPULATION			
Total	91	49	42
75.0 or more	40	26	14
50.0 to 74.9	21	12	9
25.0 to 49.9	12	4	8
10.0 to 24.9	10	3	7
Less than 10.0 percent	8	4	4

Note: Population size and the percent black, based on 1970 census figures and estimates by the mayors. Figures on percent black were only available for 91 places.

Source: Joint Center for Political Studies and U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

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LOW INCOME AREAS IN SELECTED CITIES

According to 1970 census data, the population of low-income areas, as well as that of the balance of the city, exhibited the whole range of social, economic, and housing characteristics. However, there were generally sharp contrasts between the characteristics of the population in low-income areas and the population living outside these areas. Low-income areas, as defined for the 1970 census, consist of all census tracts in which 20 percent or more of all persons were below the poverty level in 1969. The low-income areas of the 26 cities shown in tables 91 through 94 tended to be clustered around and often included the central business districts.

About five million black people resided in the low-income areas of the 26 cities with 100,000 or more blacks in 1970. Generally, the majority of black persons in a given city also lived in the low-income area. In only three cities—Detroit, Washington, D.C., and Indianapolis—was there a larger number of blacks living outside than inside the low-income areas.

In the 26 selected cities, the proportion of the population which was black varied considerably—the proportion in low-income areas being higher than that outside these areas for all cities. Columbus had the lowest proportion of blacks residing in the low-income areas (less than 40 percent). At the other extreme, in Atlanta, Memphis, and Washington, D.C., blacks represented more than 80 percent of the low-income residents.

The black population in the low-income areas in contrast to that in the remainder of the cities was generally characterized by a high dependency ratio, a low proportion of children living with both parents, low educational attainment, a high proportion of female heads, high poverty rates, fewer earners in the family, and crowded housing among renters.

In the low-income areas of most cities, the dependency ratio exceeded 0.90 percent. In 10 of the cities, it was 1.00 or more—that is to say, there were at least 100 black children and elderly persons per 100 black persons 18 to 64 years old in the low-income areas. However, in three cities—Memphis, Jacksonville, and Milwaukee—the ratio was 1.00 or more, regardless of the type of area.

The proportion of children living with both parents was 50 percent or less in more than one-half of the low-income areas; outside the specified areas, the proportion did not fall at or below the 50 percent mark. In most of the selected cities, less than one-third of all persons (25 years old and over) living in low-income areas had completed high school. The proportion was particularly small for the low-income areas of Richmond and Baltimore—20 percent or less. The highest proportion of high school graduates for low-income areas was found in Boston (43 percent), and for outside low-income areas, Los Angeles (65 percent).

The poverty rate for low-income area families was very high, ranging from 25 to 43 percent. In 5 cities, at least 4 out of every 10 low-income area families were headed by women.

In all cities, families in low-income areas were less likely to have multiple earners than those in the balance of the city. Moreover, working heads of families in the specified areas were less likely to have worked year-round. The proportion of black family heads living in low-income areas, who worked 50 to 52 weeks in 1969, reached 50 percent in only three cities—Washington, D.C., Houston, and Dallas. These cities were followed closely by 10 other cities with proportions ranging from 45 to 49 percent. The proportion of families who received income from public assistance was generally higher in these areas than elsewhere.

Unemployment rates in 23 cities were higher in low-income areas than outside these areas. The majority of the employed persons in these poverty areas were concentrated in blue-collar and service occupations.

Table 91. Summary of Social and Economic Characteristics of Black Persons, by Residence in Low-Income Areas for Cities with 250,000 or More Blacks: 1970

Selected cities	Number of black persons (thousands)	Percent black of total population	Dependency ratio	Related children under 18 years old--percent living with both parents	25 years and over--percent high school graduates	16 years and over	
						Percent unemployed	Employed--percent in blue collar and service occupations
New York, N. Y.							
In low-income areas.....	1,038	50	0.87	49	34	6	62
Not in low-income areas..	601	11	0.63	66	51	4	51
Chicago, Ill.							
In low-income areas.....	623	76	1.11	46	29	9	71
Not in low-income areas..	466	19	0.73	69	51	5	56
Detroit, Mich.							
In low-income areas.....	318	74	0.93	50	28	13	76
Not in low-income areas..	337	32	0.79	67	45	9	65
Philadelphia, Pa.							
In low-income areas.....	339	69	0.96	42	23	8	75
Not in low-income areas..	305	21	0.76	67	42	5	62
Washington, D. C.							
In low-income areas.....	221	93	0.85	48	33	5	63
Not in low-income areas..	306	63	0.66	66	53	4	48
Los Angeles, Calif.							
In low-income areas.....	311	55	0.92	47	41	12	69
Not in low-income areas..	185	8	0.65	64	65	8	52
Baltimore, Md.							
In low-income areas.....	243	77	1.00	44	20	7	76
Not in low-income areas..	170	30	0.77	67	40	5	64
Houston, Texas							
In low-income areas.....	216	61	0.90	60	31	5	78
Not in low-income areas..	97	11	0.94	75	45	5	69
Cleveland, Ohio							
In low-income areas.....	156	75	0.95	45	27	10	76
Not in low-income areas..	129	24	0.79	68	45	5	65
New Orleans, La.							
In low-income areas.....	227	70	1.05	52	23	9	77
Not in low-income areas..	38	14	0.83	74	41	5	61
Atlanta, Ga.							
In low-income areas.....	141	82	0.92	46	25	8	78
Not in low-income areas..	108	35	0.78	72	47	4	61
St. Louis, Mo.							
In low-income areas.....	200	70	1.06	47	27	10	73
Not in low-income areas..	52	16	0.83	66	44	7	61

Note: Low-income areas in metropolitan areas are defined in terms of census tracts and in nonmetropolitan areas in terms of minor civil divisions (townships, districts, etc.) in which 20 percent or more of the population was below the low-income level in 1969. For a more detailed discussion of the low-income population residing in poverty areas, see 1970 Census of Population, Volume II report PC(2)-9B, Low-Income Areas in Large Cities, and Supplementary Report PC(S1)-56, Selected Characteristics of the Population in Low-Income Areas of Large Cities.

Cities listed according to the 1970 census complete count figures for the black population.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 92. Summary of Social and Economic Characteristics of Black Persons, by Residence in Low-Income for Cities with 100,000 to 249,999 Blacks: 1970

Selected cities	Number of black persons (thousands)	Percent black of total population	Dependency ratio	Related children under 18 years old--percent living with both parents	25 years and over--percent high school graduates	16 years and over	
						Percent unemployed	Employed--percent in blue collar and service occupations
Memphis, Tenn.							
In low-income areas.....	224	83	1.09	54	24	8	78
Not in low-income areas..	17	5	1.07	71	33	7	71
Dallas, Texas							
In low-income areas.....	160	75	0.99	55	32	5	78
Not in low-income areas..	47	8	0.91	76	52	4	68
Newark, N.J.							
In low-income areas.....	159	73	1.01	48	30	9	75
Not in low-income areas..	47	29	0.76	61	43	6	64
Indianapolis, Ind.							
In low-income areas.....	54	59	0.98	50	26	11	76
Not in low-income areas..	78	12	0.94	68	44	7	65
Birmingham, Ala.							
In low-income areas.....	116	70	0.99	57	29	8	80
Not in low-income areas..	9	7	0.94	69	32	7	80
Cincinnati, Ohio							
In low-income areas.....	83	60	1.00	47	23	9	77
Not in low-income areas..	40	13	0.84	74	40	6	66
Oakland, Calif.							
In low-income areas.....	82	64	0.90	52	39	14	71
Not in low-income areas..	42	19	0.74	66	54	8	56
Jacksonville, Fla.							
In low-income areas.....	100	68	1.00	51	28	6	76
Not in low-income areas..	16	4	1.00	68	37	6	69
Kansas City, Mo.							
In low-income areas.....	66	61	1.01	51	34	6	72
Not in low-income areas..	45	11	0.99	68	50	7	64
Milwaukee, Wis.							
In low-income areas.....	72	55	1.13	54	28	9	79
Not in low-income areas..	31	5	1.00	69	47	7	69
Pittsburgh, Pa.							
In low-income areas.....	68	60	0.99	43	30	10	72
Not in low-income areas..	36	9	0.82	64	43	7	63
Richmond, Va.							
In low-income areas.....	62	77	0.93	45	18	5	79
Not in low-income areas..	40	25	0.77	72	37	3	63
Boston, Mass.							
In low-income areas.....	81	42	0.99	46	43	7	63
Not in low-income areas..	22	5	0.86	58	52	6	56
Columbus, Ohio							
In low-income areas.....	56	39	0.94	49	33	7	70
Not in low-income areas..	41	11	0.88	71	55	4	59

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 93. Summary of Characteristics of Black Families and Housing Units, by Residence in Low-Income Areas for Cities with 250,000 or More Blacks: 1970

Selected cities	Families						Occupied housing units	
	Number of black families	Percent below low-income level in 1969	Percent with female head	Percent with 2 or more earners	Head worked in 1969--percent worked 50-52 weeks	Percent receiving public assistance income in 1969	Percent renter occupied	Renter occupied--percent with 1.0 or more persons per room
New York, N.Y.								
In low-income areas.....	244,625	27	37	36	43	27	92	20
Not in low-income areas..	149,597	11	24	56	60	11	71	15
Chicago, Ill.								
In low-income areas.....	131,718	30	38	36	43	26	88	23
Not in low-income areas..	112,568	10	20	58	63	8	62	11
Detroit, Mich.								
In low-income areas.....	70,806	27	32	42	39	21	63	12
Not in low-income areas..	80,226	11	20	58	55	10	35	8
Philadelphia, Pa.								
In low-income areas.....	75,253	31	40	40	39	29	66	15
Not in low-income areas..	72,285	12	24	62	61	10	37	9
Washington, D.C.								
In low-income areas.....	47,722	25	36	49	52	13	82	24
Not in low-income areas..	73,157	10	24	64	69	5	66	16
Los Angeles, Calif.								
In low-income areas.....	71,460	28	37	40	42	31	71	18
Not in low-income areas..	46,329	11	24	57	59	13	63	8
Baltimore, Md.								
In low-income areas.....	50,866	33	40	47	44	26	81	17
Not in low-income areas..	38,886	10	22	68	67	8	54	13
Houston, Texas								
In low-income areas.....	49,824	29	26	54	52	10	64	22
Not in low-income areas..	22,145	16	15	66	65	6	32	24
Cleveland, Ohio								
In low-income areas.....	35,617	33	37	40	41	23	77	12
Not in low-income areas..	31,663	13	20	61	63	8	43	9
New Orleans, La.								
In low-income areas.....	50,420	43	34	41	42	21	76	30
Not in low-income areas..	8,753	20	18	56	54	10	55	25
Atlanta, Ga.								
In low-income areas.....	31,858	36	39	49	48	21	77	23
Not in low-income areas..	25,027	12	18	69	66	7	40	17
St. Louis, Mo.								
In low-income areas.....	42,642	30	35	47	46	23	74	23
Not in low-income areas..	12,381	12	22	62	62	11	47	15

Note: The poverty threshold for a nonfarm family of four was $3,743 in 1969. Families and unrelated individuals are classified as being above or below the poverty threshold (low-income level), using the poverty index adopted by a Federal Interagency Committee in 1969. This index centers around the Department of Agriculture's Economy Food Plan and reflects the differing consumption requirements of families based on their size and composition, sex and age of the family head, and farm-nonfarm residence. The low-income cutoffs for farm families have been set at 85 percent of the nonfarm levels. These cutoffs are updated every year to reflect the changes in the Consumer Price Index. The low-income (poverty) data exclude inmates of institutions, college students in dormitories, members of Armed Forces living in barracks, and unrelated individuals under 14 years of age. For a more detailed explanation, see 1970 Census Subject Report, PC(2)-9B.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

Table 94. Summary of Characteristics of Black Families and Housing Units, by Residence in Low-Income Areas for Cities with 100,000 to 249,999 Blacks: 1970

Selected cities	Families						Occupied housing units	
	Number of black families	Percent below low-income level in 1969	Percent with female head	Percent with 2 or more earners	Head worked in 1969--percent worked 50-52 weeks	Percent receiving public assistance income in 1969	Percent renter occupied	Renter occupied--percent with 1.0 or more persons per room
Memphis, Tenn.								
In low-income areas.....	47,711	37	30	51	49	18	60	35
Not in low-income areas..	3,632	23	19	62	63	12	30	23
Dallas, Texas								
In low-income areas.....	36,295	30	29	58	53	13	63	26
Not in low-income areas..	10,820	11	16	77	70	5	30	15
Newark, N.J.								
In low-income areas.....	35,551	27	40	39	43	31	88	21
Not in low-income areas..	11,292	12	26	57	58	14	72	13
Indianapolis, Ind.								
In low-income areas.....	11,982	28	33	47	49	13	68	18
Not in low-income areas..	18,471	12	21	64	63	5	38	15
Birmingham, Ala.								
In low-income areas.....	26,322	35	28	47	48	14	60	26
Not in low-income areas..	2,019	25	21	57	50	9	37	28
Cincinnati, Ohio								
In low-income areas.....	18,706	34	37	41	42	26	83	18
Not in low-income areas..	9,540	12	18	63	58	9	49	14
Oakland, Calif.								
In low-income areas.....	18,728	26	31	43	43	30	66	16
Not in low-income areas..	9,967	14	21	58	57	16	49	10
Jacksonville, Fla.								
In low-income areas.....	22,773	36	32	47	47	20	48	23
Not in low-income areas..	3,596	26	24	61	59	13	22	33
Kansas City, Mo.								
In low-income areas.....	14,140	26	31	53	49	14	57	12
Not in low-income areas..	10,377	13	19	70	61	8	25	14
Milwaukee, Wis.								
In low-income areas.....	15,357	30	35	51	46	26	75	16
Not in low-income areas..	6,987	14	22	67	62	13	49	9
Pittsburgh, Pa.								
In low-income areas.....	15,658	33	40	34	37	31	77	14
Not in low-income areas..	8,742	18	22	50	54	16	49	12
Richmond, Va.								
In low-income areas.....	14,108	32	39	50	49	21	72	20
Not in low-income areas..	9,656	14	21	69	64	6	39	13
Boston, Mass.								
In low-income areas.....	18,206	28	42	43	41	35	85	13
Not in low-income areas..	5,250	16	33	53	53	22	74	9
Columbus, Ohio								
In low-income areas.....	12,179	31	35	48	46	22	70	12
Not in low-income areas..	9,744	11	20	65	67	8	38	10

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census.

APPENDIX

REFERENCES FOR TABLES

Table

1. For 1900, 1940, 1950, 1960, and 1970–Decennial Censuses. For 1965-1969, and 1971-1973–unpublished Census Bureau estimates of resident population.
2. For 1970–Decennial Census. For 1965 and 1973–Current Population Surveys.
3. Same as table 2.
4. For 1960 and 1970–Decennial Censuses. For 1973–unpublished data from Current Population Survey (Five Quarter Average).
5. Unpublished Census Bureau estimates of resident population.
6. For 1959–1-in-1,000 sample of the 1960 census. For all other years–Current Population Surveys.
7. Current Population Surveys.
8. Same as table 7.
9. Same as table 7.
10. Unpublished Current Population Survey data.
11. Unpublished data from Supplement to Current Population Survey conducted by the Bureau of the Census under the sponsorship of the Office of Economic Opportunity.
12. For 1959–1-in-1,000 sample of the 1960 census. For 1969 and 1972–Current Population Surveys.
13. Current Population Surveys.
14. Same as table 13.
15. Same as table 13.
16. For 1959–1-in-1,000 sample of the 1960 census. For all other years–Current Population Surveys.
17. Same as table 16.
18. Current Population Surveys.
19. Same as table 18.
20. Same as table 18.
21. Same as table 18.
22. Same as table 18.
23. Same as table 18.

24 to 41. Current Population Surveys.

42. "Minority Group Employment in the Federal Government," (November 1970, and May 1973), prepared by Civil Service Commision.

43 to 46. Current Population Surveys.

47. Current Population Surveys.
48. Same as table 47.
49. Same as table 47.
50. For 1960–Decennial Census. For 1965, 1970 and 1973–Current Population Surveys.
51. For 1960–1-in-1,000 sample of the 1960 census. For 1966, 1970, and 1973–Current Population Surveys.
52. Current Population Surveys.
53. Same as table 52.
54. Same as table 52.
55. Same as table 52.
56. Decennial Censuses.
57. 1970 Decennial Census.
58. For Negro, 1960-1968–derived from vital statistics from the National Center for Health Statistics and Census Bureau estimates; for 1969 and 1970–Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Summary Report, Final Natality Statistics, Vol. 22, Nos. 7 and 12. For Negro and other races and whites, 1960-1968–Vital Statistics of the United States, Volume I-Natality 1968; for 1969 and 1970–Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Summary Report, Final Natality Statistics, Vol. 22, Nos. 7 and 12. For all races, 1960-68–Vital Statistics of the United States, Volume I-Natality 1968; for 1969 and 1970-Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Summary Report, Final Natality Statistics. Vol. 22, No. 12; for 1971-1973–Unpublished Census Bureau estimates.
59. Current Population Survey.
60. For 1970–Decennial Census. For 1965 and 1973–Current Population Surveys.
61. For 1967–Survey of Economic Opportunity. For 1970–unpublished data from National Fertility Survey. For 1973–Current Population Survey.
62. Current Population Survey.

REFERENCES FOR TABLES–Continued

Table

63. For 1960 and 1970–Decennial Censuses. For 1973–Current Population Survey.
64. For 1960 and 1970–Decennial Censuses. For 1965 and 1973–Current Population Surveys.
65. For 1960–Decennial Census. For 1973–Current Population Survey.
66. Current Population Survey.
67. Same as table 66.
68. Same as table 66.
69. Same as table 66.
70. 1970 Decennial Census.
71. "Minority Group Employment in the Federal Government," (November 1973), forthcoming report prepared by Civil Service Commission.
72. Current Population Surveys.
73. Same as table 72.
74. "Black Women in Electoral Politics," (August 1973), prepared by Harrington J. Bryce and Alan E. Warrick, Joint Center for Political Studies.
75. 1960 and 1970–Decennial Censuses.
76. Same as table 75.
77. Same as table 75.
78. Consumer Buying Expectations Survey obtained in the Quarterly Housing Survey (QHS) conducted 1968-1972.
79. Same as table 78.
80. For 1959-61–National Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics of the United States, Volume II–Mortality 1968, Part A. For 1971–Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 22, No. 9.
81. Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 21, No. 13.
82. For 1965–National Center for Health Statistics, Mortality Trends for Leading Causes of Death, Series 20-No. 16, and unpublished data. For 1970–unpublished data from the National Center for Health Statistics.
83. For 1940-1968–Vital Statistics of the United States, Vol. II–Mortality 1960 and 1968, Parts A and B. For 1969–Vital Statistics of the United States, Vol. II–Mortality–Parts A and B. For 1970-1972–Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 21, No. 13, Annual Summary for the United States, 1972.
84. Current Population Survey.
85. Same as table 84.
86. Same as table 84.
87. Same as table 84.
88. For 1964–based on statistics from Potomac Institute et. al. For 1968, 1970, 1972, and 1974–"National Roster of Black Elected Officials," Prepared by Joint Center for Political Studies.
89. For 1970, percent Black–Decennial Census. For all Other figures–"National Roster of Black Elected Officials, March 1974," prepared by Joint Center for Political Studies.
90. Based on statistics from the 1970 Decennial Census and unpublished data from the Joint Center for Political Studies.
91. 1970 Decennial Census.
92. Same as table 91.
93. Same as table 91.
94. Same as table 91.

DEFINITIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Most of the statistics in this report are from the Bureau of the Census, but some are from other government and private agencies. Specific sources are given in the section "References for Tables."

The 1970 data from the Census Bureau are from the 1970 Census of Population and Housing and Current Population Surveys (CPS). It should be noted that the data obtained from the CPS and the data obtained from the Census are not entirely comparable, due to different enumeration procedures and population coverage.

The data collected from the March 1973 and 1974 Current Population Surveys shown in this report are, in some instances, not entirely comparable to earlier years because of revisions in the Current Population Survey. Starting in January 1972, 1970 census-based population controls, metropolitan residence definition, and other materials were introduced into the sample and estimation procedures. The major item affecting comparability at the overall national level is the introduction of population controls based on the 1970 census. Figures for previous years, except where noted, are tied in with 1960 census-based population controls. Basically, these changes should have no substantial impact on summary measures, such as medians and means, and on proportional measures, such as percent distributions. However, the changes may have more impact on the population levels in different subgroupings or within some particular category. Specific instances in the tables of this report are footnoted accordingly. A detailed description of the changes appears in the Bureau of Labor Statistics report, Employment and Earnings, Vol. 18, No. 8, February 1972.

Another change in the Current Population Survey beginning as of December 1971, which affects occupational data only, is the inclusion of a supplemental question, "What were your most important activities or duties?", which provided additional information for classifying persons by occupation. Additionally, changes in the occupational classification for the 1970 Census of Population were introduced in the Current Population Survey in January 1971. For a further explanation of these changes see Bureau of the Census Technical Paper No. 26, "1970 Occupation and Industry Classification Systems in Terms of Their 1960 Occupation and Industry Elements" and Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings, Volume 17, No. 8 and Volume 18, No. 8.

Data on income covers money income only, prior to deduction for taxes, received from such sources as wages or salaries, net income from self-employment, Social Security, dividends, interests, public assistance and welfare, unemployment compensation, government pensions, veterans payments, etc. (Certain money receipts such as capital gains are not included). Therefore, money income does not reflect the fact that many families receive part of their income in the form of nonmoney transfers such as food stamps, health benefits, and subsidized housing; that many farm families receive nonmoney income in the form of rent-free housing and goods produced and consumed on the farm; or that nonmoney incomes are also received by some nonfarm residents which often take the form of the use of business transportation and facilities, full or partial payments by business for retirement programs, medical and educational expenses, etc. These elements should be considered when comparing income levels. For a more detailed explanation, see Current Population Reports, Series P-60, Nos. 90 and 91.

Food stamps. Data published by the U.S. Department of Agriculture show approximately 2,800,000 families purchasing food stamps in May 1973. Estimates derived from the June CPS data show approximately 2,280,000 primary families purchasing food stamps in May 1973. The difference between these numbers is the result of sampling and nonsampling errors inherent with data obtained using sample surveys, conceptual differences between the Food Stamp Program's definition of a household and the Bureau of the Census' definition of a household and possible errors in the Food Stamp Program's administrative recordkeeping system. In addition to the number of primary families reporting the purchase of food stamps, the June 1973 CPS data show approximately 830,000 households headed by a primary unrelated individual reporting the purchase of food stamps for May 1973. Data published by the U.S. Department of Agriculture show that the total number of persons in households participating in the Food Stamp Program in May 1973 was approximately 12,358,000. The comparable figure estimated from the June 1973 CPS data is 9,881,000, about 80 percent of the USDA figures.

Poverty index. Families and unrelated individuals are classified as being above or below the low-income level, using the poverty index adopted by a Federal Inter-

agency Committee in 1969. This index centers around the Department of Agriculture's Economy Food Plan and reflects the differing consumption requirements of families based on their size and composition, sex and age of the family head, and farm-nonfarm residence. The low-income cutoffs for farm families have been set at 85 percent of the nonfarm levels. These cutoffs are updated every year to reflect the changes in the Consumer Price Index. The poverty threshold for a nonfarm family of four was $4,540 in 1973, $4,275 in 1972, and $2,973 in 1959. The low-income (poverty) data exclude inmates of institutions, members of Armed Forces living in barracks, and unrelated individuals under 14 years of age. For a more detailed explanation, see Current Population Reports, Series P-60, No. 91.

Data on race of the child by race of the parent are from the 1970 census and should, essentially, reflect self-identification of race. In the 1970 census, with the use of self-enumeration, respondents had the opportunity to classify themselves with respect to race. However, the race of the nonrespondents was obtained, for the most part, by the enumerator's observation in a direct visit.

Statistics on Federal employment cover only Federal civilian employees on a full-time status as of the given date. The Classification Act (General Schedule and Similar) salary schedules are based on January 1973 pay rates which start at $4,798 a year for a GS-1 employee and increase for each grade to $36,000 for GS-18 at the entering level. Pay rates by grade for Postal Field Service, Regular Nonsupervisory, Regular Leader, and Regular Supervisory are not standard nation-wide. For example, the WG-1 salary varies by geographic areas, because in each wage area, the rates are determined by the prevailing rate in the private sector.

Data for standard metropolitan statistical areas (SMSA's), except where noted, are defined as of 1970. The standard Census definition is used for the four regions of the country. In that definition, the South includes the District of Columbia and the States of Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas.

The population figures on central cities for 1960 and 1970 apply to the area of the place at the time of the respective census. Hence, the indicated change, 1960 to 1970, in population reflects the effect of any annexation or detachments. The 1973 figure does not include annexations (or detachments which are infrequent) which have been made since 1970; therefore, the 1973 population figure in table 4 for central cities does not reflect any growth which may have occurred as a result of annexation.

Individual figures are generally rounded to the nearest thousand without being adjusted to group totals, which are independently rounded; percentages are based on the unrounded numbers. In general, percentages which round to less than 0.5 are treated as zero.

Definitions and explanations for most subjects in the report are found in the 1970 Census of Population and Housing and Current Population Survey Reports, and in the specific sources listed under "References for Tables."

SOURCE AND RELIABILITY OF THE DATA

Source of Data. Most of the estimates in this report are based on data from the Current Population Survey of the Bureau of the Census. Other data were provided by various governmental agencies including the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor; the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare; National Center for Health Statistics; and the Civil Service Commission. A complete list of sources for the tables is shown on pages 136 and 137 of this report.

Current Population Survey (CPS). Data collected from the Current Population Survey (CPS) from August 1972 to the present are based on a sample spread over 461 areas comprising 923 counties and independent cities with coverage in each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia. Approximately 47,000 occupied households are eligible for interview each month. Of this number, 2,000 occupied units, on the average, are visited, but interviews are not obtained because the occupants are not found at home after repeated calls or are unavailable for some other reason. In addition to the 47,000, there are also about 8,000 sample units in an average month which are visited but are found to be vacant or otherwise not to be interviewed.

Data collected from 1967 through July 1972 from the CPS were based on a sample spread over 449 areas comprising 863 counties and independent cities with coverage in each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia; from 1967 through July 1971 approximately 50,000 households were eligible for interview each month and from August 1971 through July 1972, the corresponding number was 47,000. Data collected in 1962 through 1966 were based on a sample spread over 357 areas comprising 701 counties and independent cities with coverage in each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia; approximately 35,000 occupied households were eligible for interview each month. Data

collected from May 1956 to 1962 were based on a sample spread over 330 areas comprising 638 counties and independent cities with coverage in the then 48 States and the District of Columbia; approximately 35,000 occupied households were eligible for interview each month. Data collected before May 1956 were based on a sample of 21,000 households.

The estimating procedure used in the Current Population Survey involves the inflation of the weighted sample results to independent estimates of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States by age, race, and sex. These independent estimates are based on statistics from the previous decennial census of population, statistics of births, deaths, immigration and emigration, and statistics on the strength of the Armed Forces.

Decennial Census of Population. Decennial census data in this report are based on complete counts or on the samples associated with the census as indicated in the list of sources. All data in this report from the 1950 or earlier decennial censuses are based on complete counts. Descriptions of the 5-, 15-, and 20-percent samples from the 1970 census are found in the appropriate census publications. The 1960 1-in-1,000 sample is a stratified systematic sample of .001 of the households enumerated in the 1960 census.

Estimates of Dilapidated Housing Units with All Plumbing Facilities (DWAPF). In the 1960 census, each census enumerator classified each housing unit visited as "sound", "deteriorating", or "dilapidated."[1] Dilapidated units are of two types: with all plumbing facilities and lacking some plumbing facilities. (any unit lacking some plumbing facilities is considered dilapidated).

The 1970 census was conducted largely by mail, and questions on plumbing facilities were asked. Counts of housing units lacking some plumbing facilities were made, but there was no way to obtain estimates of DWAPF units directly from the census. User interest in comparability between 1960 and 1970 housing quality statistics was sufficient to employ a special estimation method–known as synthetic estimation–for the 1970 Census of Housing Volume HC(6)–Plumbing Facilities and Estimates of Dilapidated Housing–from which tables of this report are taken. See introduction to the above-mentioned volume for an Explanation of Synthetic Estimation Method.

Consumer Buying Expenditures. The 1968-1972 expenditure estimates are based on data obtained in the Quarterly Household Survey (QHS). The sample was spread over 235 areas comprising 484 counties and independent cities. The housing units in this sample were interviewed for six quarters with one-sixth of the sample retired and a new sixth introduced each quarter. The data for this report were based on interviews conducted in approximately 11,500 households each quarter. These households came from a larger sample of 16,000 occupied housing units. The first time these housing units were visited, households with an annual family income less than $5,000 were identified and one-half of these were dropped from the sample for all subsequent visits. The units with income less than $5,000 which were retained in the sample were given twice the weight of the other units in the sample to compensate for this subsampling. About 3,500 of these low income households were deleted from each quarterly sample. In addition to the 11,500 occupied housing units interviewed each quarter, about 1,000 occupied units were visited but interviews were not obtained because the occupants were not found at home after repeated calls or were unavailable for some other reason. In addition to the 16,000 occupied housing units, about 2,000 units were visited but were found to be vacant or otherwise not to be enumerated. The annual expenditure data were obtained by adding together quarterly data.

The estimating procedures used in this survey involved the inflation of the weighted sample results to independent estimates of the number of owner-occupied and renter-occupied housing units by urban and rural residence based on data from the Current Population Survey (CPS). These CPS estimates have a lower sampling error due to a larger sample size and the use of other current independent estimates of the population of the United States. The use of CPS data in the estimation procedure introduced additional stability in the estimates for the QHS.

Vital Statistics Data.[2] Data on mortality rates are published by the Office of Health Statistics Analysis of the National Center of Health Statistics, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Data on number of deaths (numerators of death rates) are gathered from the offices of vital statistics of State governments, with the assistance of the Public Health Service. Decennial census figures by age, sex, and race, with adjustments, are used for the denominators of death rates. For infant mortality rates, one divides the number of infant deaths by the total number of births; for maternal mortality rates, one divides the total number of deaths to women in childbirth by total births.

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[1] The 1960 Enumerator Variance Study (Publication ER60 No. 7–Effects of Interviewers and Crew Leaders) showed extremely high correlated response variance in the proportions dilapidated and deteriorating, indicating high enumeration subjectivity and indicating relatively low reliability for the estimated population for census tracts and smaller areas.

[2] For details on methodology, see The Methods and Materials of Demography, Volume 2: Chapter 14 (Mortality) and Chapters 16 and 17 (Natality), a Bureau of the Census publication (October, 1971).

Fertility statistics are of two types: fertility rates based jointly on vital statistics and census data (Example: total fertility) and rates based on census and/or survey data alone. Children-ever-born statistics are of the second type as are birth expectations statistics and cumulated proportion by age of women having first birth.

Reliability of the Estimates. Since the estimates are based on a sample, they may differ somewhat from the figures that would have been obtained if a complete census had been taken using the same schedules, instructions, and enumerators. As in any survey work, the results are subject to errors of response and of reporting, as well as being subject to sampling variability.

The standard error is primarily a measure of sampling variability, that is, of the variations that occur by chance because a sample rather than the whole of the population is surveyed. As calculated for this report, the standard error also partially measures the effect of response and enumeration errors, but it does not measure, as such, any systematic biases in the data. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the sample would differ from a complete census figure by less than the standard error. The chances are about 90 out of 100 that this difference would be less than 1.6 times the standard error, and the chances are about 95 out of 100 that the difference would be less than twice the standard error.

All statements of comparison appearing in the text are significant at a 1.6 standard error level or better, and most are significant at a level of more than 2.0 standard errors. This means that for most differences cited in the text, the estimated difference is greater than twice the standard error of the difference. Statements of comparison qualified in some way (e.g. by the use of the phrase "some evidence") have a level of significance between 1.6 and 2.0 standard errors.

The figures presented in all the standard error tables are approximations to the standard errors of various estimates shown in this report. In order to derive standard errors that would be applicable to a wide variety of items (for a given subject matter) and could be prepared at a moderate cost, a number of approximations were required. As a result, the tables of standard errors provided are an indication of the order of magnitude of the standard errors for a given subject matter rather than the precise standard error for any specific item.

The reliability of an estimated percentage, computed by using sample data for both numerator and denominator depends upon both the size of the percentage and the size of the total upon which the percentage is based. Estimated percentages are relatively more reliable than the corresponding estimates of the numerators of the percentages, particularly if the percentages are 50 percent or more.

Note when using small estimates: Percentage distributions are shown in this report only when the base of the percentage is greater than 75,000. Because of the large standard errors involved, there is little chance that percentages would reveal useful information when computed on a smaller base. Estimated totals are shown, however, even though the relative standard errors of these totals are larger than those for the corresponding percentage. These smaller estimates are provided primarily to permit such combinations of the categories as serve each user's needs.

Data obtained from the Current Population Surveys and other governmental sources are not entirely comparable. This is due in large part to differences in interviewer training and experience and in the differing survey processes. This is an additional component of error not reflected in the standard error tables. Therefore, caution should be used in comparing results between these different sources.

Table A. Standard Errors of Estimated Numbers, Total or White Population

Current Population Survey

(68 chances out of 100)

Size of estimate (thousands)	Standard error (thousands)	Size of estimate (thousands)	Standard error (thousands)
25	7	2,500	73
50	10	5,000	102
100	15	10,000	142
250	23	25,000	210
500	33	50,000	262
1,000	47		

Table B. Standard Errors of Estimated Numbers, Negro and Other Races

Current Population Survey

(68 chances out of 100)

Size of estimate (thousands)	Standard error (thousands)	Size of estimate (thousands)	Standard error (thousands)
10	5	250	25
25	8	500	35
35	9	1,000	49
50	11	2,500	73
75	14	5,000	91
100	16	10,000	88

Table C. Standard Errors of Estimated Percentages, Total or White

Current Population Survey

(68 chances out of 100)

Estimated percentage	Base of percentages (thousands)									
	100	250	500	1,000	2,500	5,000	10,000	25,000	50,000	100,000
2 or 98	2.0	1.3	0.9	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
5 or 95	3.2	2.0	1.4	1.0	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1
10 or 90	4.4	2.8	2.0	1.4	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1
25 or 75	6.4	4.0	2.9	2.0	1.3	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.2
50	7.4	4.7	3.3	2.3	1.5	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.2

Table D. Standard Errors of Estimated Percentages, Negro and Other Races

Current Population Survey

(68 chances out of 100)

Estimated percentage	Base of percentages (thousands)							
	50	100	250	500	1,000	2,500	5,000	10,000
2 or 98	3.2	2.2	1.4	1.0	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.2
5 or 95	4.9	3.5	2.2	1.6	1.1	0.7	0.5	0.3
10 or 90	6.8	4.8	3.0	2.1	1.5	1.0	0.7	0.5
25 or 75	9.8	6.9	4.4	3.1	2.2	1.4	1.0	0.7
50	11.3	8.0	5.1	3.6	2.5	1.6	1.1	0.8

Note: Table C (with appropriate factors from table E), rather than D, is to be used for standard errors of estimated percentages for Negro and other races for income and low-income statistics.

Table E. Factors to be Applied to Tables A, B, C, and D to Estimate Standard Errors of Current Population Survey and 1960 Census 1-in-1,000 Data

Survey and 1960 Census 1-in-1,000 Data

Type of data	CPS data collected Jan. 1967 to present		CPS data collected May 1956 to Dec. 1966		CPS data collected prior to May 1956		1960 census 1-in-1,000 data	
	Persons[1]	Families	Persons[1]	Families	Persons[1]	Families	Persons[1]	Families
Voting:								
Total United States	1.0	-	1.2	-	1.5	-	-	-
Residence:								
Total or white	1.7	-	2.0	-	2.6	-	-	-
Negro and other	1.4	-	1.7	-	2.1	-	-	-
Income:[2]								
Estimated numbers:								
Total or white	0.9	0.7	1.3	1.0	1.5	1.3	0.8	0.6
Negro and other	0.8	0.6	1.0	0.7	1.3	0.9		
Estimated Percentages[3]	0.9	0.7	1.3	1.0	1.5	1.3		
Low Income:[2]								
Estimated numbers:								
Total or white	1.8	0.7	2.6	1.0	3.0	1.3	1.2	0.6
Negro and other	1.6	0.6	2.0	0.7	2.6	0.9		
Estimated percentages[3]	1.8	0.7	2.6	1.0	3.0	1.3		
Marital status, household and family characteristics:[4]								
Total or white	1.4	0.8	1.7	1.0	2.1	1.2	0.8	-
Negro and other	1.7	0.7	2.0	0.9	2.6	1.1		
Proportions--age at first birth	0.8	-	1.0	-	1.2	-	-	-
Unemployment	0.9	-	1.1	-	1.4	-	-	-
Employment:								
Total or white:								
Both sexes	0.8	-	1.0	-	1.2	-	-	-
Male only, female only	0.7	-	0.9	-	1.1	-	-	-
Negro and other	0.7	-	0.9	-	1.1	-	-	-
Employment (annual averages):								
Total or white:								
Both sexes	0.6	-	0.7	-	0.9	-	-	-
Male only, female only	0.5	-	0.6	-	0.8	-	-	-
Negro and other	0.5	-	0.6	-	0.8	-	-	-
Unemployment (annual averages)	0.4	-	0.5	-	0.6	-	-	-
Educational attainment	1.0	-	1.2	-	1.5	-	-	-

- Represents zero.

[1] Factors found in this column should also be used for unrelated individuals for all except the marital status category. For this category, use family standard errors for unrelated individuals.

[2] To obtain the factors for income and low-income data collected in 1966, multiply the factors for the period January 1967 to the present by 1.2.

[3] For income and low-income estimated percentages, apply the factors to Table C for Negro and other races as well as total or white.

[4] These factors are also to be used for population distribution: persons (residence only) and families. The factors for total United States population for age, sex, or race groups are 0.0 because of the CPS population controls to independent estimates.

Data based on the CPS sample. Tables of standard errors for estimates and percentages for characteristics pertaining to Total or White population (Tables A and C) and to Negro and other races (Tables B and D) are presented below.

Table E represents factors which are to be applied to the figures in tables A, B, C, and D to produce standard errors for the various subject matter areas. For example, to produce approximate standard errors for total or white estimates for low-income persons based on data collected in the CPS after January 1967, multiply the appropriate figures in tables A or C by the factor 1.8. These tables present approximate sampling errors for all estimates based on the CPS and the 1-in-1000 sample from the 1960 Census. The factors for families and households should be used for items which can typically appear only once in a given household, e.g., "Number of household heads," or "Number of female household heads."

Table D standard errors do not apply to income or low-income estimated percentages. Use table C with appropriate factors from table E to obtain income or low-income standard errors for estimated percentages for both "Total or White" and "Negro and other races." Table D standard errors with factors from table E, apply to all other estimated percentages throughout the report for Negro and other races.

Data based on vital statistics. Since sample statistics are not involved in the numerator or denominator of any vital rate (mortality or fertility), the standard errors for such rates are zero.

Census or survey-based fertility rates. Table F shows standard errors of estimates census or survey-based fertility rates of women in a given class. Factors are also given which should be applied to table F to obtain standard errors for Negro women or for data based on other years. The sampling variability of the ratio of children per 1000 women depends on the shape of the distribution on which the rate is based, the size of the sample, the sample design and the use of ratio estimates.

Data based on samples from the 1970 decennial census. Sampling errors of all data except for fertility rates from the 5-, 15-, and 20-percent samples of the decennial census shown in this report are small enough to be disregarded. The standard errors may be found in the appropriate census volumes, PC(1)C General Social and Economic Characteristics, United States Summary, and HC(1)B Detailed Housing Characteristics, United States Summary. For sampling errors of 1970-based fertility rates, apply the factor .04 to table F.

Estimates of dilapidated housing units with all plumbing facilities (DWAPF). Standard errors are not the best measures of variability for DWAPF units because the synthetic estimates used are subject to an estimation bias. When a sample estimator is biased, a meaningful measure of its accuracy should reflect both variability and bias. Such measures are available and are published in Volume HC(6), Plumbing Facilities and Estimates of Dilapidated Housing.

Data based on 1960 census 1-in-1000 sample. Standard errors for data based on the 1960 census 1-in-1000 sample are estimated by applying the appropriate factor given in table E to the standard errors shown in tables A, B, C, or D.

Illustrations: The source of table 8 in this report is the Current Population Survey. The table shows that in 1973 there were 5,440,000 black families. Table B shows the standard error on an estimate of this size to be approximately 91,000. Table E shows the factor for estimates of household and family characteristics for families of Negro and other races is 0.7. Applying this factor to the figure from table B provides an approximation to the standard error of this estimate of about 64,000. This means the chances are about 68 out of 100 that the estimate would have differed from a complete census figure by less than 64,000. The chances are 95 out of 100 that the estimate would differ from a complete census figure by less than 128,000.

The source of table 17 in this report is the Current Population Survey. Of these 5,440,000 black families, table 17 shows that in 1973, 1,527,000 or 28.1 percent of these black families were below the low-income level. Table C shows the standard error of 28.1 percent on a base of 5,440,000 to be approximately 0.9 percentage points. Table E shows the factor for estimates of percentages for low-income characteristics for all families is 0.7. Applying this factor to the standard error obtained from table C provides an approximation to the standard error of the 28.1 percentage of approximately 0.6 percentage points. Consequently, chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimated 28.1 percent would be within 0.6 percentage points of a complete census figure, and chances are 95 out of 100 that the estimate would be within 1.2 percentage points of a complete census figure, i.e., this 95 percent confidence interval would be from 26.9 to 29.3 percent.

Differences: For a difference between two sample estimates, the standard error is approximately equal to the square root of the sum of the squares of the standard errors of each estimate considered separately. This formula will represent the actual standard error quite accurately for the difference between two estimates of the same characteristic in two different areas, or for the difference between separate and uncorrelated characteristics in the same area. If, however, there is a high positive correlation between the two characteristics, the formula will overestimate the true standard error.

Illustration of the computation of the standard error of a difference: Table 17 of this report shows that in 1973 there were 48,919,000 white families of which 6.6 percent were below the low-income level. Thus, the apparent difference between the percent of black families and the percent of white families below the low-income level for 1973 is 21.5 percent. The standard error of 28.1 percent is .6 percentage points as shown above. Table C shows the standard error on an estimate of 6.6 percent to be approximately 0.1 percentage points. Table E shows the factor for estimates of percentages for low-income family characteristics is 0.7. Applying this factor to the standard error obtained from table C provides an approximation to the standard error of .07 percentage points rounded to 0.1 percentage points. The standard error of the estimated difference of 21.5 percent is .6 percent = $\sqrt{(.6)^2 + (.1)^2}$. This means the chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimated difference based on the sample would differ from the change derived using complete census figures by less than .6 percentage points. The 68 percent confidence interval around the 21.5 percent difference is from 20.9 to 22.1 percent, i.e. 21.5% ± .6%. A conclusion that the average estimate of the difference derived from all possible samples lies within a range computed in this way would be correct for roughly 68 percent of all possible samples. The 95 percent confidence interval is 20.3 to 22.7 or 21.5 ± 1.2; thus, we can conclude with 95 percent confidence that percent of black families below the low-income level is actually greater than the percent of white families below the low-income level in 1973.

Illustration: Table 61 of this report shows that in 1973 there were an estimated 1,442,000 black wives reporting of 18 to 39 years of age. These women had an average of 2.5 births per woman or about 2,500 children per 1,000 women. Table F shows the standard error of 2,500 children on a base of 1,442,000 women to be approximately 94. This means the chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimate would have shown a fertility rate differing from a complete census figure by less than 94. The chances are 95 out of 100 that the estimate would have shown a fertility rate differing from a complete census figure by less than 188 (twice the standard error); i.e., the 95 percent confidence interval would be between 2,312 and 2,688 children ever born per 1,000 black wives reporting their birth expectations, age 18 to 39.

Consumer buying expenditures. Table G shows standard errors of estimates of average household expenditures for selected items. The relative standard error is the standard error divided by the estimate.

Medians. The sampling variability of an estimated median depends upon the form as well as on the size of the distribution from which the median is determined. An approximate method for measuring the reliability of a median is to determine an interval about the estimated median, such that there is a stated degree of confidence that the median based on a complete census lies within the interval. The following procedure may be used to estimate confidence limits of a median based on sample data: (1) From tables C and D and the factor Table E, determine the standard error of a 50 percent characteristic using the appropriate base; (2) add to and subtract from 50 percent the standard error determined in step (1); and (3) using the distribution of the characteristic, read off the confidence interval corresponding to the two points established in step (2). A two standard error confidence interval may be determined by finding the values corresponding to 50 percent plus and minus twice the standard error determined in step (1).

Illustration of the computation of standard error of a median: Table 8 shows that the median income of black families was $7,269 in 1973. The size, or base, of the distribution from which this median was determined is 5,440,000 families.

1. Table C (recall that for income and low-income statistics, table D is not used for percentages) in conjunction with the appropriate factor from table E shows that the standard error of 50 percent on a base of 5,440,000 is about 0.7 percent.

2. To obtain a two-standard error confidence interval on the estimated median, initially add to and subtract from 50 percent twice the standard error found in step (1). This yields percentage limits of 51.4 and 48.6.

3. From table 8 it can be seen that 48 percent (2,611,200) had incomes under $7,000 and 17 percent (925,000) had incomes between $7,000 and $9,999. By linear interpolation the lower limit on the estimate is found to be about:

$$\$7{,}000 + (\$2{,}000)\left(\frac{48.6 - 48.0}{17}\right) = \$7{,}070$$

Similarly, the upper limit may be found by linear interpolation to be about:

$$\$7{,}000 + (\$2{,}000)\left(\frac{51.4 - 48.0}{17}\right) = \$7{,}400$$

Thus, the 95 percent confidence interval ranges from $7,070 to $7,400.

Table F. Standard Errors on Estimated Census or CPS-Based Fertility Rates

(68 chances out of 100)

Number of women	Children ever born per 1,000 women							
	500	1,000	1,500	2,000	2,500	3,000	3,500	4,000
250,000.....	56	101	141	179	216	255	299	343
500,000.....	39	72	100	126	153	181	211	242
750,000.....	33	59	81	104	124	147	172	197
1,000,000....	28	51	71	89	108	128	149	172
2,000,000....	20	36	49	63	76	90	106	122
5,000,000....	12	22	32	40	48	57	66	76
10,000,000...	10	16	22	28	34	41	48	55
15,000,000...	8	13	17	23	28	32	38	45
20,000,000...	7	12	16	21	25	29	34	38
25,000,000...	5	10	13	17	22	26	31	35

Note: For data from 1956 through 1966, multiply by 1.2 and for data prior to 1956, multiply standard error by 1.5. For 1970 census data multiply by 0.04

Table G. Estimates and Standard Errors for Household Expenditures (5-Year Average) on Selected Durables (1968-1972)

Items	Households					
	All U.S.		White head		Negro head	
	Estimate	Standard error	Estimate	Standard error	Estimate	Standard error
New cars.....	$1,957	$29	$2,062	$31	$949	$42
Used cars.....	1,053	15	1,091	16	697	30
Washing machines.....	67	1	69	1	52	3
Clothes dryers.....	39	1	42	1	14	1
Kitchen ranges.....	51	1	52	1	50	3
Refrigerators and freezers.....	108	2	110	2	88	5
Dishwashers.....	26	1	27	1	3	1
Room air conditioners.....	42	1	42	1	25	2
Black and white television.....	44	1	41	1	60	4
Color television.....	175	3	180	3	112	6
Radios, phonographs, Hi-Fi equipment.....	106	2	108	2	100	6
Furniture.....	410	4	415	4	383	11
Carpets, rugs, floor coverings.	167	3	177	3	82	4
Other appliances.....	74	1	79	1	39	2